

## \$16m dope haul seized in U.S.

NEW YORK (R) — Official at Kennedy International Airport seized heroin valued at over \$16 million when they arrested a Pakistani attorney and an Air India employee, the U.S. Customs Service said Sunday. Customs spokesman Michael Kaufman said 5.4 kilograms of the narcotic was found on Saturday in the raincoat and jacket lining of a 35-year-old attorney from Lahore. The attorney, identified as Chaudry Alam, arrived on an Air France flight from Paris. The seizure came one day after 1.8 kilograms of heroin was seized from an Air India employee, identified as Manhar Barot, who arrived at Kennedy on a flight from Bombay. The spokesman said Mr. Barot was attempting to smuggle the narcotic into the United States using a false-bottomed attache case and false-sided suitcase.

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## Israel releases S. Lebanon leader

BEIRUT (R) — Israeli forces Sunday released a Shi'ite Muslim religious leader whose arrest had triggered demonstrations and strikes in Israeli-occupied South Lebanon, Beirut Radio reported. Sheikh Rabea Harb, spiritual leader of the village of Jibshit, was detained about two weeks ago because of alleged links with Palestinian forces.

## 400-kg gold chain spirited away

NEW YORK (R) — Thieves using a sledgehammer smashed their way into a wholesale jewelry firm over the weekend and escaped with more than 400 kilograms of gold chain valued at about \$6 million. Police said Sunday the theft took place sometime between 4 p.m. on Friday and 6 p.m. on Saturday. Entrance to the store was gained by knocking a hole in the wall from an adjacent building and then breaking into a vault where the gold was kept, they said.

## S. Africa reports rebel raid in Lesotho

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Guerrillas killed 13 Lesotho paramilitary soldiers in an attack on a military camp in the north of the kingdom Saturday, the South African Press Association quoted a guerrilla spokesman as saying Sunday. The spokesman said the spokesman for the Lesotho Liberation Army (LLA) told it the guerrillas had showered the camp, at Oxbow, near the South African border, with mortar shells, rockets and bullets.

## Peres to hold talks in Madrid

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Labour Party leader Shimon Peres flew to Madrid Sunday for talks with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez prior to this week's meeting of the Socialist International congress in Lisbon. He told reporters they would discuss Spanish-Israeli relations and efforts to establish formal diplomatic ties.

## Nicaraguan leader in Damascus

DAMASCUS (R) — A Nicaraguan leader said Sunday he had held constructive talks with Syrian officials and Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas on political and military affairs, Victor Tirado Lopez, a leader of the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front, was speaking at a press conference after the talks. Mr. Tirado, at the head of a Nicaraguan delegation which arrived on Thursday, also met Khaled Al Fahum, speaker of the Palestinian National Council, the Palestinian parliament in exile.

## Oil barges burn on Mississippi River

ST. LOUIS, Missouri (R) — Two barges filled with crude oil were still burning Sunday following an accident on the Mississippi River which caused a five-kilometre oil slick, the coast guard said. The vessels were part of a three-barge tow which rammied into a bridge piling Saturday night, setting off an explosion and sending an oil slick down the Mississippi south from St. Louis.

# Hussein, Arafat hold third round of talks

By Lamis Andoni  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat held a third round of talks on Sunday, but a statement on the outcome of the talks was apparently postponed until today, Monday.

Mr. Arafat held a press conference Sunday, but did not comment on his discussions with the King, saying that he would be making a statement to the press, and answer questions after the conclusions of his talks with the King.

Mr. Arafat, who has called for a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee Monday, might hold further talks with the King, Palestinian sources said.

The sources said that this development and the length of the Hussein-Arafat talks since Saturday suggested that the two leaders felt an accord on joint political moves could be reached.

Earlier Sunday, a PLO official told the Jordan Times that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian statement will be issued at the end of Sunday's meetings. This statement, the official said, will outline "the joint political tasks" as seen in the light of latest developments in the Palestinian problem in Arab and international levels. "The mechanism for implementing these tasks will be the subject of an Arab summit meeting in Morocco," he said. The summit is expected to take place in the Moroccan city of Fez in the middle of this month.

The Jordan Times later learned that a joint committee was formed to formulate the joint statement at the conclusion of the Hussein-Arafat talks. The six-member committee, which emanated from the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee, comprises Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh, Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Hassan Ibrahim and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem to represent the Jordanian side.

PLO Executive Committee members Yasser Abd Rabbo, Dr. Ahmad Sidki Al Dajani and PLO representative in Jordan Abdul Razak Al Yahya represent the Palestinian side in the committee.

Although the exact nature of the ongoing talks was not known, remarks made by Mr. Arafat and other PLO officials affirmed the

organisation's commitment to an Arab peace plan adopted at last September's Arab summit held in Fez. The PLO chairman questioned the credibility of the American administration, who outlined a new peace initiative for the Middle East last September, and its willingness to exert pressure on Israel to withdraw from all the occupied territories and Lebanon.

The U.S. initiative, announced by President Ronald Reagan, calls for Palestinian self-rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan.

"The U.S. is still rendering unlimited support to Israeli aggression," the PLO chairman said Sunday. He described as "positive" a recent decision by President Reagan to suspend the delivery of 75 F-16 fighter jets to Israel until Israel withdraws its forces from Lebanon.

Yet, Mr. Arafat said, "we shall not forget that the U.S. has supplied Israel with 200 Sidewinder missiles last week."

PLO Deputy Commander Khalil Al Wazir was more specific on the PLO's stand concerning the Reagan plan. Mr. Wazir, popularly known as Abu Jihad, said that the Reagan initiative denied the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to an independent state, and ignored the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

More than 500 Palestinians, mostly schoolgirls, were hospitalised in the West Bank town of Jenin after complaints of ailments, which apparently were caused by poisoning. Israeli officials and medical teams have not been able to explain the cause of the ailments. Scores of schoolgirls were reported to have been hospitalised Sunday in three other West Bank towns and Palestinian

policy against the Palestinian people and their heritage," the PLO chairman said.

Commenting on Israel's treatment of Palestinian prisoners in Ansar camp in South Lebanon, Mr. Arafat said that more than 40 prisoners have been either tortured to death or shot down by firing squads. "The killing of Palestinians in both the occupied territories and Lebanon are part of a genocide drive organised and carried out by the Israeli authorities," he said.

Mr. Arafat appealed to world public opinion and the international community to condemn "the Zionist crimes and support the just Palestinian struggle to regain usurped rights."

Israel has concentrated five armoured divisions in preparation for a new offensive against Palestinian forces in the Bekaa Valley in east Lebanon, Mr. Arafat said.

The Israeli acts against the Palestinian people and Islamic holy places, have been the subject of discussion by the PLO Executive Committee meeting in Amman Sunday morning, Mr. Arafat said. He added that among other measures, the meeting sent emergency letters to Organisation of Islamic Conference Chairman King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, Jerusalem Committee Chairman King Hassan of Morocco, Pope John Paul II, Non-Aligned Movement Chairman Mrs. Indira Gandhi of India and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Mr. Arafat affirmed that the Israeli "harassment and intimidation against the Palestinian people will not stop the struggle of the Palestinians."

He told the newspapers he did not believe Soviet pilots would fly Syrian warplanes against Israel.

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Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat holds a press conference in Amman Sunday. To Mr. Arafat's left is PLO Executive Committee member Dr. Hanna Nasir (Petra photo)

## Jordan calls for probe into W. Bank poisoning

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Sunday called on the World Health Organisation (WHO) to investigate the mass poisoning in West Bank schools which entered its second week Sunday with fresh cases reported from the occupied territories.

Health Minister Zuhair Malhas, in a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said that the "situation has become very serious" and the WHO should set up a high-powered investigating committee to probe the causes of the poisoning.

More than 500 Palestinians, mostly schoolgirls, were hospitalised in the West Bank town of Jenin after complaints of ailments, which apparently were caused by poisoning. Israeli officials and medical teams have not been able to explain the cause of the ailments. Scores of schoolgirls were reported to have been hospitalised Sunday in three other West Bank towns and Palestinian

sources put the number affected Sunday at 600. In his statement Sunday, Mr. Malhas also called for a special medical team from the American state of Georgia to conduct a thorough study of the cases.

Jordanian National Red Crescent Society President Ahmad Abu Qoura was quoted by Petra Sunday as saying the poisoning was "part of the Zionist plans to evict the Arabs from their homeland." Mr. Abu Qoura, who described the act as "barbaric" said: "The enemy would not stop at committing actions that would, among others, would render the affected girls infertile and cause serious illness to others."

Dr. Abu Qoura pledged to work through the International Committee of Red Cross and other international agencies to work towards putting an end to Israel's "inhuman violations of international agreements."

## Haddad says Syria blocks Israeli withdrawal

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese renegade Maj. Saad Haddad has said the presence of Syrian troops in Lebanon and not the future of the Israeli-backed militia is the biggest obstacle to the withdrawal of foreign forces from the country.

He told the English-language weekly magazine Monday Morning in an interview published Sunday: "Maj. Haddad is not the obstacle and it is unfortunate that the Lebanese government should portray Maj. Haddad as an obstacle."

He added: "I hope that the Lebanese negotiator will concentrate his efforts on the Syrian withdrawal, which will soon emerge as the major obstacle."

The United States is trying to secure the removal of all Israeli, Syrian and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) forces from Lebanon.

It has been concentrating on reaching agreement with the Israelis first because of promises from Syria and the PLO that they will pull out their men if the Israelis leave.

The negotiators appear to be making some progress on "security" arrangements to prevent PLO forces returning to South Lebanon but are still sharply divided over the future of Maj. Haddad.

Israel invaded Lebanon in June last year with the declared aim of eliminating PLO bases and Syria, originally entered the country in 1976 to stop a civil war.

The Israelis are demanding that Maj. Haddad's militia be given a role in guarding South Lebanon. Lebanon is willing to let some of the militiamen join the regular army but refuses to keep them together as a unit or to give the major a field command in the south.

Maj. Haddad's militia, estimated by the Lebanese government to number 840 men, came to prominence when Israel installed it in control of a strip of South Lebanon along the Israeli border in 1978.

## Jewish extremists try to enter Aqsa Palestinians stage violent protests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Tension ran high in the occupied West Bank as a group of extremist Jews tried to enter the holy Al Aqsa Mosque in Arab East Jerusalem and hold prayers there. A spokesman for the Israeli police said the group, headed by Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the extremist Kach movement, was turned back.

The new attempt to enter one of the holiest Islamic shrines came in the wake of widespread Palestinian protests to mark the anniversary of last Easter Sunday violence by a Jewish gunman who barricaded himself in the Haram Al Sharif and opened fire on Muslim worshippers, killing two and injuring 30 others.

Two weeks ago Jewish extremists made another attempt to enter the Haram Al Sharif and police said they thwarted the attempt and arrested 45 people. Later the detainees were released, pending trial.

Sunday's outbreaks coincided with the Palestinian protests, which were further intensified by reports that new cases of mass poisoning had resulted in the hospitalisation of scores of Arab schoolgirls in the West Bank town of Yatta, near Hebron.

The girls had complained of ailments similar to those that struck more than 500 Palestinians, mostly school girls, in the West Bank town of Jenin over a week ago.

Israeli officials and medical teams have so far been unable to explain the mysterious poisoning, which the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said was an attempt to render the girls infertile.

Similar cases were reported Sunday in the refugee camp of Sawaar, also near Hebron, and the West Bank town of Anabta.

Israel Radio Sunday said 200 girls from Anabta were taken to hospitals in Tulkram and 130 others from Yatta High School were taken to the Hebron Municipal Hospital.

Palestinian sources put the total number of girls affected Sunday at 600.

At least six people were injured in Sunday's protests as Christians from around the world celebrated the resurrection of Jesus Christ at shrines in Jerusalem's Old City, and Jews marked their week of Passover.

In the West Bank city of Nablus, two Israeli soldiers were wounded by a hand grenade thrown at troops outside a hospital, the state radio reported.

An Arab youth from a refugee camp near Hebron was treated for a bullet wound in the hand, the report said.

Security sources said the youth apparently was wounded by an Israeli who opened fire after he encountered stone-throwing Arab demonstrators.

At least three Israelis were reported injured during stone-throwing incidents in Jerusalem's Old City and the West Bank, the sources said.

Police fired guns in the air and troops had to be kept in stone-throwing by demonstrations in Yatta, security sources said.

In the Old City area of Jerusalem, Arabs declared a commercial strike.

The Israeli troops sent into Yatta, imposed a curfew after demonstrators threw stones at police.

In the village of Al Hadr, near Bethlehem, police dispersed Arab demonstrators who threw stones at Israeli vehicles and blocked a road with rocks.

The demonstrators also stoned an Israeli patrol on the Via Dolorosa, believed by Christians to be the route taken by Jesus on his way to be crucified.

Members of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) held a mock funeral service and delivered a coffin full of flowers to the base.

Fastlane, on the River Clyde, is 50 kilometres from Glasgow, where about 4,000 people lay down in a city square Saturday and feigned death from a nuclear attack.

At a "peace camp" near the Fastlane base one of the demonstrators told reporters: "The public is starting to wake up to the fact that there is something we can do to prevent nuclear war."

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## PLO calls for Security Council session on Israeli practices in occupied lands

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) called Sunday for a special meeting of the United Nations Security Council on "Israeli assaults against Islamic and Christian holy sites in the occupied territories" and the mass poisoning of Palestinian school girls in the West Bank.

At a news conference held in Amman Sunday, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasser Arafat said that last Saturday's destruction of the Hassan Bek Mosque in Jaffa, the sabotage attempt at Sheikh Jarrah Mosque in Jerusalem and Sunday's Jewish extremist attempt to enter Al Aqsa Mosque were "premeditated crimes aimed at uprooting symbols of Islamic and Arab civilisations" in the occupied territories. "Such practices are part of an Israeli extermination

policy against the Palestinian people and their heritage," the PLO chairman said.

Commenting on Israel's treatment of Palestinian prisoners in Ansar camp in South Lebanon, Mr. Arafat said that more than 40 prisoners have been either tortured to death or shot down by firing squads. "The killing of Palestinians in both the occupied territories and Lebanon are part of a genocide drive organised and carried out by the Israeli authorities," he said.

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## Maneka Gandhi formally launches new party

NEW DELHI (R) — Maneka Gandhi, rebel daughter-in-law of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Sunday formally launched a new party with a call for India's youth to join the fight against corruption and unemployment.

Speaking at the party's first national convention in Delhi, Maneka said the government had become divorced from the people and tainted with corruption.

Lashing out at Mrs. Gandhi's government, she charged: "The larger the disaster, the greater the bungling, the more it is regarded as a status."

"The nation is under siege," she said, "and the attackers are corruption and unemployment."

Maneka, the 26-year-old widow of Mrs. Gandhi's son Sanjay who died in a plane crash in 1980, announced the formation of her new party late last month while predicting general elections within the next nine months.

She says the party called Rashtriya Sanjay Manch (National Sanjay Organisation) has formed cells in most parts of India and has 800,000 members. It will press for decentralisation, job-oriented education and more aid for farmers.



# FEATURES

## Compact disc: More a need of industry than the public

By Kevin Cooney  
Reuter

NEW YORK — A small gleaming silver disc as light as a postcard, which when rotated takes on a prismatic rainbow-type sheen, looks likely to cause the biggest technological change in home listening since stereo sound.

The new compact disc, only 12 centimetres across, departs completely from the previous "Edisonian" system of using a stylus to pick up sound vibrations from grooves in a record.

Instead, it uses a laser beam to "read" digitally-encoded information and pass it to an amplifier. This eliminates the scratch, hiss and hum that inevitably accompany a needle touching a groove.

This week two companies, one Japanese and the other European, launched campaigns here to equip all American homes with laser-read discs and their players, replacing the now-familiar stereo records and sound systems.

The new system also virtually eradicates flutter, vastly improves stereo separation and, according to manufacturer's publicity, could herald "a new era of technical brilliance."

Carrying price tags of close to \$1,000 apiece, the players will yield handsome profits to the company that can dominate the huge and crucial American market.

The new system was recently launched in Japan, Britain, France, Holland and West Germany and the final word — of critical importance to the future of the Japanese electronics industry — will depend on its U.S. debut. Last October when the disc was

introduced in Japan the public response exceeded manufacturers' hopes. About 30,000 players and 300,000 discs were bought in three months, and supply is still nowhere near satisfying demand.

All companies have now revised their sales estimates upwards, and Sony of Japan expects to sell 20,000 players in Britain, where they were introduced last month, by the end of 1983.

This week Magnavox, a subsidiary of N.V. Philips of the Netherlands, moved forward the introduction of its products into the U.S. after Sony tried to get ahead by sending its machines to Hi-Fi stores in what it called an "educational" phase of its marketing plan.

Less than four years ago Sony entered the compact disc stakes by making an agreement with Philips to cooperate in a single worldwide format for the disc, thereby avoiding the confusion that accompanied the introduction of home video systems using different formats.

But that cooperation has now very definitely ended. When asked how his company intended to beat the Japanese at capturing the larger share of the market, Magnavox President Ken Thomson said: "We are going to fight like hell."

Magnavox is moving its products, with suggested retail prices of \$800 and \$900, directly into department stores, skipping over Hi-Fi shops, and is stressing that its machines cost \$100 less than Sony's. In return Sony comments that its machines, unlike Magnavox's, have remote control.

A.J. Menozzi, a Magnavox sales executive, sees the potential market in the U.S. for machines that play compact digital audio discs growing to 140,000 in 1984 from 70,000 this year.

The players can be attached to existing amplifiers and stereo systems, and the price, though steep, is no higher than that of a top-quality conventional turntable. It is expected to drop rapidly as newer models come on the market.

Operating the new system is simple. The player is connected to the "tape" or "auxiliary" socket of the standard amplifier, a disc is inserted and the "play" button is pressed.

There is no fiddling around with arms or cartridges, no dusting is necessary, and because there is no physical contact the discs hardly ever wear out.

The conductor Herbert Von Karajan, a technology addict, said after testing a prototype at the Salzburg festival in 1981: "All else is gaslight."

However, not everyone in the industry is so enthusiastic. Some believe the Japanese, hit by falling demand for LPS and turntables and keen to engage their giant electronics industry in a new product, may have rushed in too quickly.

"Compact disc is more a need of the industry than of the public," one industry analyst said.

Discs are currently being man-

ufactured by Sony in Japan, and at Hanover, West Germany, at a \$15-million pressing plant set up by Polygram, the music subsidiary of Philips and Siemens.

Nearly all the top record companies have arranged to produce discs at one of these two factories, though the repertoire available at present is restricted to best-selling classical and pop albums.

Until a few months ago the American companies had refused to commit themselves. But the disc's success in Japan has prompted CBS to invest \$20 million with Sony to build a pressing plant in the United States.

The next few months will see if that was a costly error.

## Veteran Paris 'Sprague' to retire soon

By Chris Peterson  
Reuter

PARIS — The Parisian Transport Authority has finally decided to retire its last old-style metro train, a type which has been running on the city's underground rail system since 1906.

The last remaining five-coach, in familiar green and red livery, will make its final journey on the line from Mairie De Montreuil to Pont De Sevres on April 16 amid much ballyhoo and publicity.

The Ornate coaches, with their hard varnished wooden seats, elaborate brass handrails and ornate panelling, were first built by the Sprague-Thomson Company in 1906 and the last examples were produced, unchanged in design, in 1934.

Affectionately known as "Spragues", they became a symbol of the mixture of Gallic style and eff-

iciency that still characterises the metro system today.

But time and modern technical advances began to overtake the Spragues, and the authorities started to phase them out in 1956.

One problem for travellers used to the modern trains was the speed of the automatic doors on the old-style carriages.

"When you've become used to the relatively smooth closing of the modern doors, the guillotine-like speed of the old ones is a shock," said one regular commuter on the Pont De Sevres line.

"But they are a very impressive sight alongside today's chrome and plastic trains."

The RATP, the city's transport authority, is saying goodbye to the last of its faithful servants with special boutiques selling headed notepaper, models of the train, specially-designed notebooks and

the inevitable T-shirts.

The train will carry senior officials and retired RATP employees on its last sentimental journey. "We're all sad to see it go. It represented a combination of style and nostalgia," said an RATP spokeswoman.

The last train still running was built by Sprague-Thomson 50 years ago, and according to the RATP its faded green second-class coaches and bright red first-class coach still have their original coats of paint. It will go to the city's transport museum for permanent display.

Noisy they might have been, lacking the cushioned comfort of the latest air-conditioned silent space-age trains with their blue-tinted windows. But they retained an air of individuality in an increasingly conformist age.

## Devastating bush fires threaten the economy of Ivory Coast

By Claude Regis  
Reuter

ABIDJAN — Bush fires are sweeping across the Ivory Coast, leaving behind a swath of death and devastation and threatening the West African country's prosperous agriculture-based economy.

Sparked by a lengthy spell of dry weather, strong desert winds, farmers cleaning land and hunters flushing game, bush fires are imperilling the country's vital cocoa and coffee crops and further reducing its already dwindling tropical forests.

Experts say years of costly effort and investment in agriculture could go up in smoke unless fast and determined action is taken to check what local officials and newspapers have described as a national catastrophe.

Healed by two decades of political stability, this former French colony has been among the fastest expanding economies in Africa. The fires have also hit other West African cocoa producers like Ghana, Cameroon and Nigeria.

By the mid 1970s, the Ivory had become the world's top cocoa producer and ranked third in coffee production after Brazil and Colombia.

With timber, palm oil, bananas and pineapples also major export crops, agricultural products account for 75 per cent of the country's income.

A newspaper and television campaign has been launched to try to persuade farmers not to burn their small holdings for annual clearance, a traditional practice which has caused many fires.

Part of the blame has also been laid against hunters who set fire to crops and wait for animals to emerge, despite the fact that hunting has been illegal for the past 10 years.

Scores of farmers and hunters have died in the process and whole villages reduced to ashes, according to newspaper reports.

Bush fires have sent cocoa and coffee prices up on world markets but trade sources say it is too early to make a serious estimate of the likely drop in this year's mid-crop and next year's main crop.

But there is little doubt that production of both cash and food crops will suffer.

Agriculture Minister Denis Bra Kanon said last month the 1982-83 season's cocoa production will be well under last season's crop of 456,000 tonnes, but gave no details.

Some experts have also blamed what they called the over-exploitation of one of West Africa's densest rainforests for this year's dramatic rise in bush fires.

They argue that indiscriminate felling has progressively eliminated a once natural barrier, allowing the annual dry Harmattan wind from the Sahara to blow harder and further south.

Ivorian Forestry and Water

Resources Minister Christian Zagote admitted in a television programme that felling was partly responsible for the Savannah zone in the north advancing south towards the coast.

But Mr. Zagote also blamed bush fires which he said had destroyed vast expanses of woodland, allowing the Savannah to set in. In the last 25 years the Ivory Coast's woodland has shrunk from 12 million hectares (30 million acres) to less than four million (10 million) and is still disappearing at a rate of 400,000 hectares (one million acres) a year.

Forestry experts say that deforestation causes a decline in humidity which allows fires to spread.

Ivorian officials admit that there is little they can do in the short term to tackle bush fires, except pray for an early start to the rainy season.

"The rudimentary means at our disposal do not enable us to eliminate the danger," one Ivorian forestry official said.

Conscious of the long-term threat that large-scale felling represents to the country's economy — timber accounts for 15 per cent of its export revenues — and its ecological balance the government has undertaken a reforestation programme.

But the state agency responsible for the programme, has only managed to replant an average of 4,000 hectares (10,000 acres) a year against plans for an annual 10,000 (25,000).

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# HOME NEWS

## Jordan, S. Arabia to conduct joint studies

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Saudi Arabia have agreed in principle to cooperate in conducting joint geophysical and seismological studies, according to a spokesman for a Saudi Arabian delegation which paid a four-day visit to Jordan for talks on the subjects.

The delegation which has now left for Cairo conducted talks with officials and specialists from the University of Jordan and the Jordanian Geologists Association in cooperation between the two countries in the exchange of information on earthquakes, the spokesman, Dr. Habibullah Marghalani said.

The delegation has familiarised itself with information pertaining to earthquakes which recently occurred in Jordan and examined research projects on the subject being conducted by the University of Jordan, Dr. Marghalani said.

## Conference to focus on Jordan's changing environment, climate

By Rami G. Khouri  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan's changing environment and climate during the past several hundred thousand years will be the theme of the Second Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan which will be held here next week. Over 50 distinguished archaeologists and scholars from 12 different countries will participate in the conference.

The conference opens on April 5 and lasts until April 10, with a full-day field trip scheduled for April 11. The conference will be opened by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who has been deeply involved in launching this series of major gatherings to discuss the archaeological and historical heritage of Jordan.

The First Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan was held in Oxford, England, in March 1980. These conferences are scheduled to be held every two years, alternately in Jordan and

abroad. The papers presented at the Oxford Conference have just been published in an impressive Jordan I, edited by Dr. Adnan Hadidi, the Director of the Jordanian Department of Antiquities.

The book contains the presentations of the 55 scholars who delivered papers at the Oxford conference, along with detailed bibliographies and relevant maps, photographs and drawings.

Among the book's major contributions to the world of scholarship, besides bringing together such a diverse collection of research on Jordanian archaeology in one volume, is a precedent of the high standard that it has established, both in the content and presentation of the research material.

The Second Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan will see the presentation of 56 papers on various aspects of the Jordanian environment throughout ancient history. Several scholars will focus on the prehistoric period, which has attracted con-

siderable scholarly attention during the past five years.

Several papers consider the climate and geography of the Jordan Rift Valley throughout history, from the Yarmouk River basin in the north to Wadi Araba in the south. Three papers will discuss the environment of the Petra region, while two other papers focus on the changing environment of the Bab ed-Dhra' and Kerak Plateau area in the Early Bronze Age.

Individual papers will also discuss developments in urbanisation during the Hellenistic and Roman periods, ancient urban planning at Jerash, urbanisation in and around Umm al Jimal in late antiquity, rural settlement in Byzantine Jordan, the role of Qasr Hallabat during the Umayyad period, the wildlife of Azraq, the environment's influence upon human settlement in the Beq'ah valley, agriculture and population movement in the 19th Century, the climate and vegetation of Jordan and other related subjects.

The conference will be held at the Amra Hotel.

## Bridges closed today

AMMAN (Petra) — King Hussein and Prince Mohammad Bridges across the River Jordan will remain closed Monday for the second day running, according to a statement by the Public Security Department.

It said that travellers will not be allowed to cross though lorries were allowed to move both ways Sunday between 7 and 10 a.m. only.

## Pakistani team visits Civil Defence Commission

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing Pakistan's civil service Sunday called at the Civil Service Commission and met with its Director Ali Khreis.

The delegation's members were briefed during the meeting on the commission's system and compared it with systems applied in Pakistan and discussed problems facing both.

During the meeting Labour Under-Secretary Tayseer Abdul Jaber spoke about Jordan's experiments in comprehensive development planning and Jordan's achievements.

The delegation comprising leading officials in the Pakistani government and civil service later called at the Institute of Public Administration where they attended a session of the higher training course on management which is now in progress.

## Seminar opens on food industry in Arab World

By Ara Voskian  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A three-day seminar on food production in Jordan was opened Sunday by Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayoub, who deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The seminar, which is being held at the Amman Chamber of Industry, is organised by the Arab Union for Foodstuff Industries, in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Amman Chamber of Industry.

In his opening speech, Mr. Ayoub conveyed Crown Prince Hassan's greetings to all the participants and expressed hopes of achieving positive results and progress at the conclusion of the conference.

"The agricultural sector is one of the most important sectors that need development in the Arab World," the minister said.

He called on the participants to study the proper means of exploiting the available resources in the Arab World.

"There are 238 billion cubic meters of water resources in the Arab World, of which 156 billion cubic meters are being exploited presently, and of the 236 million hectares of agricultural land only 46 million hectares are being exploited," Mr. Ayoub pointed out.

The minister stressed the importance of promoting food production "as the Arab World is presently importing 80 per cent of its food needs," he added.

President of Amman Chamber

1.7 per cent while the food consumption amounts to more than five per cent annually," Dr. Jaber said.

He called on Arab states to work towards achieving food security through mobilising Arab resources and channelling investment within the Arab region, and the opening of Arab markets and borders to facilitate the flow of Arab agricultural products.

Another speaker was AUF Regional Director Jack Khayyat, who said that the food industries in Jordan have received government encouragement through legislation and various other development plans.

The participants represent various Jordanian ministries, Arab and international organisations, the Council of Arab Economic Unity and a number of Arab funds.

During the first session the participants reviewed a working paper submitted by the AUF General Secretariat on Arab and international food industries.

## Council of Arab Economic Unity opens ninth session

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) opened its ninth extraordinary session in Amman Sunday at ministerial level.

Addressing the meeting outgoing CAEU Secretary-General Fakri Qasbiouni outlined the council's activities and programmes which were implemented and the research projects conducted by the CAEU secretariat in the past decade to consolidate Arab economic coordination and cooperation.

He also pointed out a number of effective measures that should be taken to further bolster joint Arab

action and eventually achieve Arab economic integration.

At the outset of the meeting United Arab Emirates Minister of Economy and Trade Sa'id Ghaith made a speech referring to the critical stage the Arab Nation is now passing through. He called on the Arab states to display solidarity and arrive at constructive resolutions that would best safeguard the Arab nation's higher interests.

The council at its first session endorsed its agenda which includes a review of a report by the CAEU's secretary general and a study on the Arab Economic Market.

## Economic delegation to visit Cairo soon

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian economic delegation is expected to visit Cairo this month for talks on Egyptian-Jordanian economic and trade cooperation, the local press reported Sunday.

A report in Al Dustour newspaper said that an Egyptian tourist and economic delegation visited Amman in the past two months and held talks with Jordanian officials on cooperation between the two countries in general and in trade and tourist affairs in particular as well as the opening of a maritime line linking Aqaba with Suez.

Another paper, Sawt Al Shaab,

said that a meeting was held at the Ministry of Industry and Trade under the chairmanship of Under Secretary Mohammad Saleh Al Hourani to examine the possibility of resuming Jordanian exports to Egypt.

Exports to Egypt will be in implementation of a trade protocol signed by Jordan and Egypt in 1977, according to the paper which quoted ministry sources.

## Development Bank gives loans to towns, villages

JERASH (Petra) — The Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB) has endorsed three loans worth nearly JD 45,000 to the village of Kiteh in Jerash district.

One of the loans (JD 25,000) will be used to purchase land for opening streets, the second (JD 10,000) will be used to finance the asphalted of roads and the third (JD 9,599) will go for paying streets.

compensation to people who will lose trees in the process of opening roads.

The CVDB is also granting Beit Jaffa town in Irbid governorate JD 20,000 which will be used to finance the construction of an annex to the town's girls' school. Another CVDB loan of JD 30,000 will go to Rajeb village for opening streets.

## WSC to study prequalifications for Zarqa, Ruseifa projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Water Supply Corporation (WSC) will next week review a study for the prequalification of international firms that will bid for the implementation of the Zarqa and Ruseifa water and sewerage projects.

WSC's director of projects Yaqoub Hindieh said that the project, estimated to cost \$100 million, entails the establishment of a wastewater treatment plants in Zarqa and Sukhneh drilling and laying a sewerage network, the

construction of a drinking water pumping station north east of Zarqa and laying sewerage pipes to drain away rain water which will serve areas extending between a point north of Marka, in Amman to Al Sukhneh north west of Zarqa. According to Mr. Hindieh nearly 300,000 people will benefit from the new project.

He said that the project, one of the major schemes to be carried out in Jordan, is aimed at making available sufficient amounts of drinking water and collecting rain

water and wastewater for treatment that will later be used for agricultural and afforestation purposes.

He said that companies will be requested in July to submit bids for the implementation of the project, work on which is expected to start by the end of 1983.

The project is being financed by loans from the World Bank and the West German Development Fund (KFW) as well as the Islamic Bank and the Jordanian government.

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## Taking chances

IT was said before, and we say it again: neither Jordan nor the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) can afford to lead their separate ways at this stage or ever; if anything, Jordanians and Palestinians need to continue their joint struggle for regaining the occupied Arab land in one voice and as one people.

The talks that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and his accompanying delegation have been holding with His Majesty King Hussein and members of the Jordanian government here in Amman during the past several days are indeed important, but not only because we have to say "yes" or "no" to the Reagan plan for the Middle East in a matter of the coming days. The pressing need has actually always been for reaching a clear and mutual understanding of what the various options offer and to stick to this understanding as a common strategy that is good for all.

Indications are that the results of the talks between the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships may not assume full dimensions right after their conclusion, but the fact that the discussions were conducted in a constructive and positive atmosphere is very important in view of the difficult questions that have to be tackled by both sides. Any outcome that may be agreed on as the basis for next joint moves should also help the cause and could only augur well for the future.

Although there might be different perceptions of what should be done to confront the common Israeli danger and threats against Jordanians and Palestinians, we have very little doubt that both Jordan and the PLO remain fully aware of today's facts of life. None will have assumed of course that to say "yes" to the Reagan plan would have returned the West Bank and Gaza to us without any further trouble. By the same token, very few will have thought that rejecting the plan would help the cause in any way either.

We do not know if there might be an answer in taking a middle course. If there was not, there might be bigger losses, but, all the same, for a good life most of us have to take chances.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Israeli assaults on mosques

The recent criminal assaults by Israel against the Hassan Beik Mosque in Jaffa, and the Sheikh Jarrah Mosque are evidence of Israel's escalation of a campaign against Muslim holy places in the occupied Arab territories. Such practices not only aim to let loose the extremist religious gangs of Zionist orientation but also mean to test Arab and Muslim response to such acts in preparation for committing the climax-crime of the kind by destroying the Aqsa Mosque.

The creation of new obstacles in the Middle East peace path is another target of such violations of cultural and human norms. The Israeli authorities, while blaming fanatic religious groups for such crimes, want to see how big the world public opinion's response to such practices would be. Hence, it is of great significance that the Arab and Muslim states carry out their responsibilities towards the holy places, and agitating the world public opinion against such practices. They are to try all means in their capacity to arrive at a world campaign against such violations, which includes the summoning of the U.N. Security Council to assume its responsibilities regarding the protection of the holy sites.

The U.S. administration should be made to understand that its diplomatic umbrella in protection of such Zionist practices can not go on for ever unchecked, and that a serious American attitude towards such practices is the only way for safeguarding U.S. reputation.

### Al Dustour: New Zionist drive underway

Israel is escalating its aggression against the occupied Arab territories, and all aspects of the national life of the Palestinian people. A new Zionist drive against the Muslim holy places is underway, regardless of the feelings of indignation such practices arouse not only at the Arab and Muslim level, but also at the international one. In addition to expansionist practices, the Zionists are trying their best to make life in the occupied territories totally unbearable for its people.

Collective terrorist acts, the encouragement of Israel's Village-League stooges to assault Palestinian nationals, the arming of terrorist gangs of settlers and last but not least the collective threatening of the lives of hundreds of Palestinian schoolchildren have become daily practices under the patronage of the occupation authorities.

Against such a background of irresponsible practices by the Zionists, mainly aimed to drive the Palestinian people out of their homeland and create better conditions for annexation, the meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat takes place. The Jordanian-Palestinian popular masses are eager to see the joint effort by their leadership reach new peaks in terms of promoting the mutual interests of our people and taking effective steps for relieving our people in the occupied territories, thus foiling annexationist Israeli plans.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Arabs must confront threats

After the attempt at poisoning hundreds of schoolchildren in Jenin by the Israelis, which came to create a reign of chaos in the occupied Arab territories to serve their annexationist ends, a new series of assaults against Muslim holy places is being carried out by the so-called Zionist extremists.

The collapse of the Hassan Beik Mosque in Jaffa for "unknown reason", according to some Israelis, comes after a year of threat against the mosque by the Israeli authorities, who claim that the land on which the mosque stands now belongs to an Israeli tradesman, who wants to use it for building a department store.

The collapse of the mosque is definitely part of an Israeli drive against Muslim holy places, the Aqsa Mosque included. The Israeli authorities' attempts at finding a scapegoat in the extremist religious groups on the Zionist side cannot be taken seriously. Such practices are carried out with full support of the Begin government and its allies, and have a political nature that has a lot to do with the Zionists' annexationist plans. They are meant to uproot the cultural heritage of the Arabs in the occupied territories as part of the policy to force them out of their homeland.

The Arab and Muslim states and forces are urgently called upon to confront such a threat, and assume their historical responsibilities.

## DE FACTONOMICS

# Measures to mitigate the economic slowdown

By T.A. Jaber

Reactions to my commentary of last week on the indications of economic slowdown in Jordan has encouraged me to elaborate on what suggestions may be made to mitigate this development and shorten its duration.

It is gratifying that Jordan has been able to experience a continued economic growth over the last three years. It is especially gratifying since the economies of the United States, West European and other market economies have suffered from a severe economic recession with unemployment reaching 10 to 12 per cent, zero or negative growth in income, trade wars, bankruptcies and insolvent social security systems.

I need not go into presenting the economic policies to combat economic slowdown that usually are advocated in the literature. Rather, I shall deal directly with the case of Jordan.

The Jordanian government should reconsider its economic priorities for 1983 with the following major objectives in mind:

1. To generate revenues, external and local, to meet public

expenditures as estimated in 1983 budget.

2. To induce the private sector to maintain a high level of activity.

3. To fund on-going development projects.

4. To ascertain a high level of employment for the Jordanian labour force.

These objectives imply that the government is aware of the negative effects of the slowdown and is ready to pursue active policies to counteract them. The following are overall measures that the government should undertake for this purpose.

**GOVERNMENT FINANCING:** Every effort should be made with the Arab countries concerned to have their financial assistance to Jordan paid on time. Economisation in public expenditures is warranted. However, the government is required to pump funds into the economy even if it will be through additional deficit financing. In other words, the government should issue more bonds and treasury bills and should borrow directly from the central bank, as advances, in addition to the present amount.

New sources of local revenues, particularly fees, could also be tapped.

**INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION:** Protection and preference should be given to local industries at least over a period of two to three years. Saudi Arabia has just undertaken similar measures to create a minimum demand for local industries. The private industrial sector must organise marketing missions and campaigns outside Jordan and improve its competitiveness. Official price fixation should be much more permissible in the light of our need for economic activation even with some inflation.

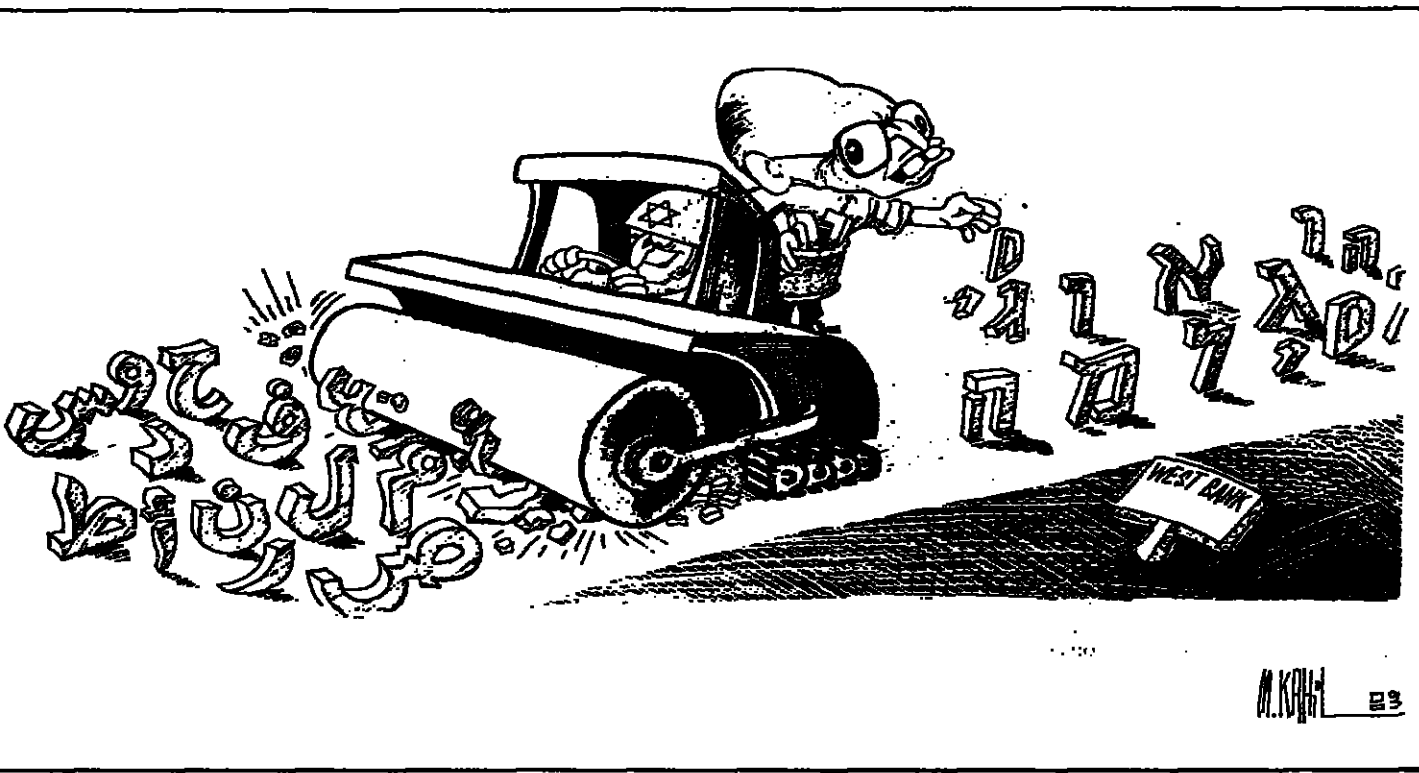
**IMPORTS:** It is high time to start rationalising our import policies. Now is the right economic situation to control our import bill for purposes of saving foreign exchange and protecting Jordanian production. Is it really a must to import, at this season, grapes, watermelons and pineapples?

**EMPLOYMENT:** The importation of labour should be limited to those occupations where there is a shortage in the Jordanian labour market. Possible lay-offs of industrial workers should be carefully coordinated in advance with the Ministry of Labour. Previous regulations concerning Egyptian workers should be reinforced in order to avoid imported unemployment.

**TOURISM:** Travel and tourist agencies ought to organise local tour packages for Arab tourists from the Gulf as well as others. Hotels should be priced downwards and their services improved. The return of Jordanians to spend summer vacation at home should be facilitated.

**PRIVATE INVESTMENT:** We need to induce private investments in all fields to assist in activating the economy. A new study of the impact of income tax measures is needed. The aim should be to assess the trade-off between additional tax revenue and its impact on private investment.

**MONEY AND BANKING:** Banks and financial institutions are called upon to expand their credit facilities, to lend public agencies and to lower the cost of their credit. Maintaining a realistic exchange rate for the Jordan dinar is a step in the right direction.



## Unmistakable shift in Sino-Soviet relations

By Roger Crabb  
 Reuter

PEKING — In 12 months since the Kremlin offered Peking an olive branch, there has been an unmistakable shift in the global state of Sino-Soviet relations.

Almost unthinkable when the late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev made a public bid for better relations last March, the two countries have already completed two rounds of consultations and have agreed to meet again. Chinese negotiator Qian Qichen returned last week from the latest talks in Moscow, and said: "The atmosphere was calm, the consultations were beneficial."

But asked if relations had developed after a quarter-century of bitter enmity, he replied emphatically: "No." Peking's preconditions for better relations call for removal of Soviet troop concentrations along their common

border and in Mongolia, an end to the Vietnamese presence in Kampuchea, and withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. There has been no sign of movement on these issues, and China has maintained a tough public stance.

Yet Soviet officials have described the atmosphere at the talks as warm and friendly. There has been a noticeable thaw in the past year in exchanges between the two Communist giants — sporting links have resumed, student exchanges are expected to follow, and trade this year is set to increase by about 170 per cent.

Diplomatic analysts say China is seeking to reduce tension on its borders as it strives to modernise at home, and that it wants also to demonstrate its distance from the United States. "The Chinese have clearly taken the political decision to have some sort of a thaw with the Russians," a Peking-based

diplomat said, "but no-one knows how limited it will be."

Long gone are the days when Peking reviled the Kremlin leaders as "revisionists" and traitors to Marxism-Leninism. The doctrinal element in the quarrel faded as China's post-Mao leaders themselves moderated the late chairman's rigidly collectivist policies.

Even attacks on Soviet "hegemonism" — what Peking sees as Moscow's urge for expansion — have been balanced in recent months by similar broadsides against U.S. policy. Chinese officials say Kampuchea is the most urgent concern, closely followed by the level of Soviet forces in Mongolia.

The Kremlin contends these issues concern third countries and have no place on the agenda for bilateral talks. The Chinese are believed to have argued that Soviet-backed Vietnam's role in Kampuchea threatens China's security, as does the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan and Mongolia.

Diplomats in Moscow think a compromise may be possible over Kampuchea if China shows readiness to talk with Hanoi directly about the estimated 180,000 Vietnamese troops stationed in that country for the last four years.

### Border troops

On the question of border troops, there are indications in Moscow that the Kremlin will discuss only forces deployed on Soviet soil, not those in neighbouring Mongolia.

As for Afghanistan, diplomats in both Moscow and Peking agree there is no realistic way for the Russians to leave soon and the signs are that China tacitly accepts this. In a speech in Tashkent last March 24, Mr. Brezhnev said Moscow had "never considered normal the state of hostility and

## Chile's economic policies are rapidly changing

By Julio Villaverde  
 Reuter

SANTIAGO — Chile's military president, Augusto Pinochet, is rapidly changing the course of his government's economic policies in the face of an economic crisis and mounting demands for an early return to democracy.

General Pinochet late last month introduced a series of economic measures seen by local economists and bankers as reversing the government's previous monetarist policies. The government doubled import tariffs and banned the free foreign exchange market in a package designed to fight unemployment and reverse a sharp decline in the economy. Announcing the emergency package, Finance Minister Carlos Caceres admitted the government had been forced to abandon its free market policies temporarily to overcome the crisis.

Shortly before the measures were announced, General Pinochet had warned several opposition leaders who had proposed a return to democracy within two years that they might be regarded as subversives. The politicians, including some of his former allies from the Rightist National Party as well as the Christian Democrats and left-wing parties, called on the country's military to replace President Pinochet and reform the constitution.

But the 67-year-old general, who took power in a coup in 1973, said a constitution approved by a plebiscite in 1980, empowering him to serve until 1989, would be followed to the letter. Last month his government expelled three foreign priests for alleged involvement in politics, further straining relations with the country's Roman Catholic church.

The police also detained over 200 people after a string of bomb attacks and violent anti-government protests in Santiago. The economic measures introduced by Gen. Pinochet included a rise in import tariffs, from 10 to 20 per cent. It was the first such measure in almost 10 years of military rule, during which the country's economic leaders had dismantled protectionist import barriers set up by the former Socialist government of Salvador Allende.

### Pegged rate

The government also pegged

the peso-dollar rate to domestic inflation, in an attempt to stem a drop of \$840 million in its foreign reserves during the first two months of this year, banking sources said.

This was the third change in the country's foreign exchange policies since the peso was floated last June, after being fixed for three years. Last September the government re-established the fixed exchange rate at a floor of 66 pesos to the dollar but allowed it to fluctuate within narrow limits. The fall in reserves put in danger an \$875 million loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which Chile needs to service its \$17.1 billion foreign debt.

In an economic programme attached to the loan, Chile agreed last January to keep its budget deficit to 1.8 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and limit the decline of foreign currency reserves to \$600 million in 1983.

But late last month government officials announced they had successfully negotiated a revision of the IMF programme, which will now allow for higher state spending and credit expansion. The officials said the revised economic targets would help reactivate the economy this year, after GDP fell by over 14 per cent in 1982. Unemployment, which reached 20 per cent in greater Santiago last February would also be reduced, they added.

Local businessmen have reacted cautiously to the new economic measures, noting that the main challenge for the government is now to prevent a further run on the peso, which has sunk to 74 to the dollar from 39 last June. With annual inflation running at 23 per cent, there is also concern that higher government spending could increase inflationary pressures, they said.

Political sources admit that Gen. Pinochet has shown flexibility by introducing the economic changes. In the last eight months he sacked two economy ministers. But this attitude is unlikely to be repeated on the political front, they added.

The 1980 constitution, which went into effect on March 11, 1981, provides for the armed forces to call a referendum to decide whether Gen. Pinochet's eight-year term should be extended beyond 1989.

In a speech to mark the second anniversary of the constitution, Gen. Pinochet said its provisions would be fulfilled "step by step".

## Attempt to settle Kampuchean dispute fails

By Michael Fathers  
 Reuter

BANGKOK — A new attempt to settle the Kampuchean dispute through talks between Communist and non-Communist southeast Asian countries has died at birth. It was scuttled by a mixture of bruised egos, lack of consultation, premature publicity and over-high expectations.

The initiative centred on possible talks between Vietnam, whose troops installed a pro-Hanoi regime in Phnom Penh in 1979, and members of the five-country association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) which wants an end to Vietnam's military presence in Kampuchea.

According to a senior official at an ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting in Bangkok last week, it could have led to something if handled correctly. "It is sad that the opportunity was missed," he said. "It was stillborn." Hopes had

been raised by Malaysia's Foreign Minister, Tan Sri Ghazali Sahffe, who said a breakthrough took place when he held talks with his Vietnamese counterpart, Nguyen Co Thach, during this month's non-aligned summit in New Delhi.

But a communiqué after the one-day Bangkok meeting showed no sign that his ASEAN colleagues agreed. The foreign ministers reaffirmed their original stand that any Kampuchean peace must be in accordance with United Nations resolutions, which Vietnam rejects.

They said they took note of the idea of talks between ASEAN and Vietnam, adding that they were willing to explore appropriate avenues for a comprehensive political settlement. Mr. Ghazali talks with Mr. Thach were merely a renewal of efforts to bring Hanoi to the conference table.

The crucial point from the New Delhi talks was an apparent offer from Vietnam to exclude the Heng Samrin government which it

installed in Kampuchea from any talks between the Indochinese states and ASEAN, which groups Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines.

This would have removed a regular stumbling block to any negotiations. ASEAN and most U.N. members do not recognise the Heng Samrin government but support an Anti-Vietnamese coalition led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk which includes the Communist Khmer Rouge ousted in 1979.

### Revealed details

According to ASEAN diplomats at the non-aligned summit, it was unclear whether the proposal to exclude Kampuchea was made by Mr. Thach or Mr. Ghazali. But Mr. Ghazali did agree to the Vietnamese minister's request for their so-called understanding to remain secret.

He later reported details to Suppiah Dhanabalan and Moc-

htar Kusumaatmadja, foreign ministers of Singapore and Indonesia, the two other Asian countries in the Non-Aligned Movement. The three ministers agreed to consult their ASEAN colleagues from Thailand and the Philippines on a next step, senior ASEAN officials said.

But before they could do this Singapore's deputy prime minister, S. G. Rajaratnam, revealed details of the talks in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). Vietnam then denied there had been any negotiations while Thailand and the Philippines expressed indignation in private that they had not been consulted. Both sides were forced to return to their original positions.

Mr. Thach told Vietnam television that during informal talks in India Mr. Ghazali had suggested a meeting between ASEAN and Laos and Vietnam. Mr. Thach went on: "If the

(government of Kampuchea) issue constitutes a difficulty, we are prepared to examine it and take into consideration ASEAN's difficulty. Of course under no circumstances, shall we accept that there are only Laos and Vietnam. It has always been our opinion that in all circumstances it is a matter between the two groups, ASEAN and Indochina."

The water was muddied further by Lao Foreign Minister Phoun Sipraseth, who said on the eve of last Wednesday's ASEAN foreign ministers meeting that the issue had been misunderstood. He told the official KPL news agency that Mr. Thach had proposed a dialogue between Laos and Vietnam and ASEAN members of the Non-Aligned Movement only. Kampuchea's non-aligned seat is vacant.

ASEAN officials involved in the Ghazali-Thach talks said no mention was made of topics for discussion, an agenda or the mod-

alities of a meeting. One senior aide said: "The Malaysians perhaps over-reacted. The Singaporeans and the Indonesians wanted harder evidence of Vietnam's intentions. The Philippines and the Thais were immediately suspicious and upset that they had not been consulted."

The aide said the issue needed to be played carefully. "If the secret had been kept we would have wanted Vietnam to be specific on subjects for the talks," he said. "We would never have agreed if they wanted an open agenda that would have allowed them to include topics like U.S. bases in the Philippines and Indonesia's (1976) move into East Timor."

Care will be needed in any future contacts, ASEAN diplomats say. "The dust will have to settle first before another approach is made. Whatever circumstances next time will have to be handled very quietly and carefully," one commented.

مذكرات من الامم



# How fast Health for All by the Year 2,000 programme moves?

By John Rowley

The Alma Ata conference was called in 1978 to give voice to new thinking about development and health and to the awareness that in these fields things were not getting noticeably better.

Then, as now, two-thirds of the world's population were estimated to be poor and one quarter to be living in absolute poverty. Incomes and nutritional levels were too low, a WHO report said, and even where there had been some progress in reducing illiteracy, not enough children were going to school. Little had been done to meet the needs of women.

The new strategy to provide Health for All by the Year 2000 was designed to change all that but according to Dr. Hellberg, who co-ordinates the WHO work in this field, there are probably more people out of reach of health care than was the case five years ago. Population has grown faster than services. Progress has been held back by the realities of funding, by the entrenched attitudes of the

medical profession and by the shortage of trained staff in many countries.

Some countries, such as China and Mozambique, have managed to introduce integrated national programmes to improve the health of their populations. Others have favoured a piecemeal, project-type approach using low-cost community health workers outside of the national health care system. Either way it is discouraging to hear from Oscar Gish, professor of health planning at Michigan University, that "primary health care in most countries has as yet relatively little to show on the ground".

So is the Health for All slogan merely a cruel deception? Dr. Hellberg thinks not. It is, he believes, a way of focusing attention on the future, reversing the tendency of medical and health workers always to look back at what has gone before.

However, there are dangers: "In all the fuss about Alma Ata and Health for All, expectations have been raised to unrealistic

levels, particularly among people who have never experienced fieldwork in health or development."

He points to the folly of assuming that what Alma Ata proposed was in any way revolutionary. "It is easy to forget that people have been helping themselves for hundreds of years." The difference now is that organisations such as WHO are trying to share information with communities so they can help themselves in a better way.

There have been some important changes, however, in the way people view health and these will gradually bring results, Dr. Hellberg says. "One of the important things is that we have switched from medical care to health care, from a preoccupation with the reasons for disease to include the reasons for health."

Part of this process has been an increase in the number of community workers or paramedical staff. The problem is that in many countries the informal health-care workers are largely ignored by

those with formal medical qualifications who have not yet been convinced about the contribution village volunteers can make. One answer to this would be gradually to offer more volunteers formal employment. Dr. Hellberg thinks the health workers would benefit from payment and a career structure and that the best of them should be encouraged to consider this.

However, like everything else, such an increase in paid manpower would need more money and, even among governments which have not cut their health budgets, not many have allocated much more cash to primary health care. Many poor countries spend only 1 or 2 per cent of their incomes on health and in any case it is not easy to switch money quickly from long-term commitments such as running hospitals.

In addition, there may be factors beyond even a government's control such as the rise in oil prices. "Broken-down vehicles and fuel shortages can have a more negative effect than actual budget

cuts because primary health care is heavily dependent on transport", says Dr. Hellberg.

He suggests that until there are fundamental social and economic changes in many countries there will not be any scope for a real improvement in the health of the people and in particular of women and children, the main customers of primary health care. "Nothing will really change as long as women are forced to spend hours collecting fuel and water every day, or as long as women continue to have a new baby every year", says Dr. Hellberg.

For this reason it is vital that those whose concern is with health should work closely with other groups such as educationalists, or family planning workers. There should be an end to battles at national level between the various organisations whose jobs would benefit from being closely linked at village level.

Family planning is a good example. "It is of crucial importance to health care and women's development", says Dr. Hellberg, yet

these are areas where five years have brought little change. He argues that family planning should be taught to education and general health workers because villagers often find the subject more acceptable if it is introduced by members of the community they already know and trust as teachers or even religious leaders.

So, while there is cause for some optimism, as more people are brought within reach of some kind of health care, not enough attention has been paid to what should be done next and there is still far too much dependence on centralised medical care in Dr. Hellberg's view.

This is why at WHO they hope to begin serious evaluation of the Health for All strategy this year. "We always assume", says Dr. Hellberg, "that because we are good people wanting to do good things, the results are good. But that is not enough."

— People News/Features



How far the 1978 Alma Ata conference help these Third World countries (from left India, Lagos, and Guyana) to develop living and health conditions.

## Randa Habbib's CORNER

### Highways and intersections

HIGHWAYS are becoming more numerous in Amman, but instead of making things easier for us they are becoming the source of extra problems.

I am not speaking about the works being carried out, we have no choice but to put up with them. But that a highway should be built without any provisions for intersections to come back. This is funny.

Once we take a highway and decide to go back to the departure point we have to drive to the end of the highway and then turn back.

As an example take the highway that takes you from the 8th Circle to the Queen Alia Airport.

Let us imagine that you want to go to the Wadi Seer central post office located on the right at the beginning of the highway. You go through the 8th Circle and enter into the highway and reach the post office. You finish what you have to do there, like buying those new widely advertised phone sets sold by the post office and decide to go back home to Jabal Amman or anywhere else. You have no choice but to continue towards the new airport until you reach the first intersection that will allow you to turn back. (This is the one measured it) approximately 15 kilometres from the post office. Then you should drive another 15 kilometres to reach your point of departure (the Wadi Seer post office, adding to that the distance from there to your house).

This is too much! With the morning traffic you should allow 30 minutes for the return only!

This highway is not yet totally finished, the same goes for the highway leading from the Medical City to Al Hussein Housing which has but one intersection. Thus it is too late to allow for a few openings at certain places.

## Opinion -- Al Ra'i

### The other face of a country

By Fakhri Kawar

Most world cities seem to have other faces than that bright, clean, well-organised one often introduced to tourists, and shown on television to manifest beautiful colours and fine general taste. So is the case with our Jordanian cities and town, while enormous cities like London, Paris, Vienna or any other overpopulated one are also subject to the same fate.

A city is just like a man, who appeals to you sometimes as handsome, refined and even charming, while other times he is simply rude, aggressive and ugly. It is the same man though.

I have recently seen an episode of a Jordanian magazine programme called "From My Country". The programme, which is shown every Tuesday, helped acquaint myself with the other face of Jordan's

only sea resort, Aqaba, which I did not admire. I saw children running through garbage piles for something to eat. I saw disabled children tied to a chain to some pole, and some of them were going on with no shelter to protect them. I also saw to see some crowded areas with unbelievable numbers of occupants.

On the other side, I saw groups of boys and girls singing and dancing. As I felt I was out of context, I felt a bitter impression that they were lamenting the bad face of other Aqaba residents, who had to go through it all alone.

Nonetheless, I find myself much willing to express my appreciation of the TV programme in question. It is a daring one, and should be continued and supported, as it has a lot to do to speak the truth.

## WHO studies contraceptive vaccine

By Gamini Seneviratne

GENEVA — A step-by-step guide for human trials of a prototype contraceptive vaccine has been drawn up by scientists from the World Health Organisation, a pharmaceutical company and Ohio State University.

This follows a research programme funded and directed by the WHO since the late 1970s. It is now concentrating efforts on producing a vaccine which will affect the placental hormone hCG (human chorionic gonadotropin) which is important in pregnancy.

The vaccine neutralises or inhibits the production of hCG in the maternal circulation, and so mimics an infertile cycle even when there is a fertilised egg present.

Midway through the monthly female cycle an egg is released and the follicle from which it came starts to produce progesterone to maintain the uterus in a condition suitable for the implantation and later development of the embryo. This ends after 14 days if no signal is received to continue. This is where hCG comes in.

In a fertile cycle, before implantation, the embryo, while just a ball of cells, secretes minute amounts of hCG. The hormone goes back into the follicle of the ovary and maintains it so that instead of

switching off after 14 days the follicle carries on producing progesterone.

The prototype vaccine against hCG includes a peptide of the 30 or so amino acids which make up the tail of one of two chains which make up its molecule. This peptide appears to be represented only in hCG and the assumption that if antibodies were developed against it they would attack only hCG proves true.

The peptide has to be coupled with another molecule to make it large enough to produce the required immune response. It took nearly two years to identify an appropriate chemical procedure to join the peptide and carrier in a way that is repeatable and predictable, without variance.

The prototype also uses a third ingredient to magnify the immune response. The three-in-one material is injected in a water-and-oil emulsion which keeps it in the muscle long enough for the immune system to recognise it, pick it up and process it so that it makes the recipient "naturally" intolerant of the hCG. Then the hCG secreted by the embryo will be destroyed.

Tests in baboons have produced very high (95 per cent) rates of efficacy and results in humans

promise to be even better. Baboon studies have produced two other important findings. First, that all the immunised animals continue to menstruate normally, and secondly that the offspring of those animals which became pregnant were born normal and healthy.

The first human trials could begin early in 1984. They will be on sterilised women because these (phase I) studies are really limited human toxicology tests. They will see whether the women "can tolerate receiving the vaccine and assess the immune response produced by it. These studies will only be carried out when current studies of relevant vaccine safety have been satisfactorily completed. The research has not yet reached the stage when the risk of exposing a human fetus to the vaccine can be considered.

The pre-phase II studies, long-term tests on baboons, will take up this issue by exposing the fetus. Pregnant animals will be given the vaccine and immunised animals will be mated before the antibodies build up sufficiently to inhibit pregnancy. The result of antibodies and fetus being present at the same time and the impact of the one of the other will be monitored.

— People News/Features

## Where to be born for a long life?

By Anthony Goodman

Reuter

UNITED NATIONS — For the prospect of a long life, Iceland is the place to be born, according to the United Nations Demographic Yearbook 1981, just published.

Norway, the Netherlands, Japan and Sweden also offer the statistical likelihood of living to a ripe old age.

The yearbook contains a vast array of data concerning all aspects of the world's population, estimated at 4,508 million in mid-1981, an increase of 76 million over the previous year.

It shows that women in Iceland enjoy the longest life expectancy at birth — 79.7 years. Icelanders also head the list of long-living males with an expectancy of 73.7 years.

New-born girls in more than 20 other countries can also look forward to celebrating at least their 75th birthday.

They are: Norway (79.0), the Netherlands (78.9), Japan and Sweden (78.8), the Faeroe Islands (78.7), France (78.2), the United States and Australia (77.8), Finland (77.6), Canada (77.5), Denmark (77.3), West Germany, and England and Wales (76.4), Spain, Switzerland and Austria (76.2).

Puerto Rico (76.1), Byelorussia (76.0), Italy (75.9), Israel (75.7), New Zealand (75.5) and Belgium (75.1).

There are also more than a dozen countries, in addition to Iceland, where males at birth can expect to live at least to the age of 70: Japan (73.3), Sweden (72.8), the Netherlands (72.4), Norway (72.3), Israel (72.1), Cyprus (71.9), Denmark (71.2), Australia (70.8), Spain (70.4), Switzerland (70.3), England and Wales, and Canada (70.2), and Greece (70.1).

By contrast, females in 47 countries or areas in Africa have a life expectancy at birth of less than 50 years.

Africa also accounts for the 10 countries with the highest crude birth rates — figures which do not take into account the proportion of women of child-bearing age in a population.

They are: Kenya, with 53.8 births per 1,000 population, Niger (51.4), Rwanda (51.0), Botswana (50.7), Mauritania (50.2), Ethiopia, Liberia and Nigeria (49.8), Mali (49.4) and Zambia (49.2).

The 10 countries with the lowest crude birth rates are all in Western Europe: West Germany (10.1), Denmark (10.4), Italy (11.2), Sweden (11.3), Swi-

tzerland (11.6), Luxembourg (12.0), Austria and the Netherlands (12.5), Belgium (12.6), and Norway (12.8).

For the world as a whole, the estimated crude birth rate during the period 1975-80 was 29 births per 1,000 population.

One of the main findings recorded in the demographic yearbook is that the 25 most populous countries or areas, accounting for nearly 80 per cent of the total world population, have almost all experienced declines in fertility.

China's birth rate, which stood at 33.8 births per 1,000 in the period 1960-65, was down to 21.3 by 1975-80.

Just over one third of all people on earth in 1980 were under 15 years of age and six per cent were 65 or older, reflecting little change in the age distribution since 1975.

But while the proportion of those 65 or older was highest in Europe (13 per cent), North America (11 per cent) and the Soviet Union (10 per cent), in Africa they accounted for only three per cent of the population and in Asia and Latin America only four per cent.

In almost every region of the world, about 60 per cent of the population were in the 15-to-64 age bracket.

## TV & RADIO

### JORDAN TELEVISION

#### MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 ..... Koran  
17:30 ..... Cartoons  
17:45 ..... Children's Programme  
18:30 ..... Sport  
18:45 ..... Muppet Show  
19:00 ..... Programmes Review  
19:30 ..... Armed Forces Programme  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Arabic Series  
21:00 ..... Arabic Varieties  
21:30 ..... News in Arabic

#### FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 ..... French Programme  
18:00 ..... News in French  
18:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:30 ..... Comedy: Tati — On the Job  
21:00 ..... Smiley's People (Eps. 1)  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:15 ..... Music in Time

### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & party on 9560 KHz, SW

07:10 ..... Morning Show  
08:00 ..... News Summary  
08:45 ..... Morning Show  
09:00 ..... News Summary  
09:30 ..... Pop Session  
10:00 ..... News Summary  
10:30 ..... Pop Session  
10:45 ..... Sports Roundup  
11:00 ..... News Summary  
11:30 ..... Picnic Time  
12:00 ..... Concert Hour  
12:30 ..... News Summary  
12:45 ..... Instruments, Old Favorites  
13:00 ..... First Spin  
13:30 ..... News Summary  
14:00 ..... Animal, Vegetable, Mineral  
14:30 ..... Newsday  
15:00 ..... Date with a Star  
15:30 ..... Evening Show  
16:00 ..... News Summary  
16:30 ..... News Summary  
17:00 ..... News Summary  
17:30 ..... News Headlines

### BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsday 06:30 The World of

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### TODAY'S EVENTS

#### FILM

"L'Age Ingent" starring Jean Gabin, at the French Audio-visual Centre at 8:30 p.m.

#### CONCERTS

\* Langenberg Symphonic Brass Orchestra performs at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

#### EXHIBITIONS

\* "Acrylics and Gouaches" by Nicole Masini at the French Cultural Centre. These exhibitions are on at the Royal Cultural Centre from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

— Jordan and the European Communities  
— Treasures of Astronomy.  
— Qur'an and Hadiths.  
— Images of L'Art Français.  
— Leonardo's Working Models.

### CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre, Tel. 661026/7  
American Centre ..... 41520  
British Council ..... 36147-8  
French Cultural Centre ..... 37009  
Goethe Institute ..... 41993  
Soviet Cultural Centre ..... 42403  
Spanish Cultural Centre ..... 24049  
Turkish Cultural Centre ..... 39777  
Haya Arts Centre ..... 665195  
Husseini Youth City ..... 667181  
Y.W.C.A. ..... 41793  
Y.W.M.C.A. ..... 664251  
Amman Municipal Library ..... 36111  
University of Jordan Library ..... 84355

### MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. — 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51766.  
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has a

### CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 24390.  
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweibdeh, 37440.  
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 66177.  
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.  
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 43453.  
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.  
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.  
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249.

### PRAYER TIMES

03:55 ..... Fajr  
05:19 ..... Sunrise  
12:48 ..... Dhuhr  
18:23 ..... Asr  
17:59 ..... Maghrib  
19:23 ..... Isha

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at Amman Airport tel. 92205-6, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

06:45 ..... Cairo (EA)  
06:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
06:55 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
06:55 ..... Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
07:05 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
07:05 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
07:10 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
07:10 ..... Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)  
07:15 ..... Moscow (GF)  
07:20 ..... Kuwait (KAC)  
07:25 ..... Jeddah, Medina (SV)  
07:30 ..... Baghdad (IA)  
07:30 ..... Bangkok (RJ)  
07:35 ..... Cairo (EA)  
07:40 ..... Tunis, Athens (TU)  
07:45 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
07:45 ..... Paris, Beirut (AF)  
08:00 ..... Athens (GF)  
08:00 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
08:05 ..... Frankfurt, Damascus (LJ)  
08:10 ..... Beirut (MEA)  
08:15 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
08:15 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
08:15 ..... Cairo (EA)

#### DEPARTURES

06:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
06:55 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
07:05 ..... Cairo (EA)  
07:05 ..... Beirut (MEA)  
07:10 ..... Damascus, Athens, Geneva, Zurich (SA)  
07:15 ..... Vienna, New York (RJ)  
07:15 ..... Tripoli, Madrid (RJ)  
07:20 ..... Athens (GF)  
07:25 ..... Paris, London (RJ)  
07:30 ..... Geneva, Frankfurt (RJ)  
07:35 ..... Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)  
07:40 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
07:45 ..... Moscow (SU)  
07:50 ..... Kuwait (KAC)  
07:55 ..... Medina, Jeddah (SV)  
08:00 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
08:05 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
08:10 ..... Beirut (RJ)

### 19:00 ..... Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (GF)

19:00 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
19:15 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
19:20 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
19:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
20:00 ..... Cairo (EA)  
20:05 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
20:10 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
20:20 ..... Cairo (EA)

#### ARRIVALS

06:45 ..... Cairo (EA)  
06:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
06:55 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
06:55 ..... Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
07:05 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
07:05 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
07:10 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
07:10 ..... Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)  
07:15 ..... Moscow (GF)  
07:20 ..... Kuwait (KAC)  
07:25 ..... Jeddah, Medina (SV)  
07:30 ..... Baghdad (IA)  
07:30 ..... Bangkok (RJ)  
07:35 ..... Cairo (EA)  
07:40 ..... Tunis, Athens (TU)  
07:45 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
07:45 ..... Paris, Beirut (AF)  
08:00 ..... Athens (GF)  
08:00 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
08:05 ..... Frankfurt, Damascus (LJ)  
08:10 ..... Beirut (MEA)  
08:15 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
08:15 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
08:15 ..... Cairo (EA)

### DEPARTURES

06:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
06:55 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
07:05 ..... Cairo (EA)  
07:05 ..... Beirut (MEA)  
07:10 ..... Damascus, Athens, Geneva, Zurich (SA)  
07:15 ..... Vienna, New York (RJ)  
07:15 ..... Tripoli, Madrid (RJ)  
07:20 ..... Athens (GF)  
07:25 ..... Paris, London (RJ)  
07:30 ..... Geneva, Frankfurt (RJ)  
07:35 ..... Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)  
07:40 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
07:45 ..... Moscow (SU)  
07:50 ..... Kuwait (KAC)  
07:55 ..... Medina, Jeddah (SV)  
08:00 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
08:05 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
08:10 ..... Beirut (RJ)

Yearly high temperatures: Amman 17, Aqaba 24. Humidity readings: Amman 55 per cent, Aqaba 43 per cent.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

### EMERGENCIES

Ambulance ..... 143, 75111  
Fire, fire, police ..... 312-132  
Blood bank ..... 75121  
Civil Defence rescue ..... 661111  
Fire headquarters ..... 22090-3  
Police rescue ..... 192, 21111, 37777  
Police headquarters ..... 6641-1  
Traffic police ..... 56340-1  
Electric Power Co. ..... 36381-2  
Municipal water service ..... 71125-8

### HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre ..... 81381-33  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman ..... 44281-4  
Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman ..... 42441  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 32362  
Malhus, J. Amman ..... 36149  
Palestine, Shmeisani ..... 664171-4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 664131-7  
University Hospital ..... 358485  
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein ..... 667158  
Al-Musharraf Hospital ..... 667227-9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 665292  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664114  
Indian, Al-Muhajira ..... 71011-3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 75111  
Army, Marka ..... 91611

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Moh'd Kamal Abbasi ..... 24561

### GENERAL

Dr. Abdul Halim Al Musa ..... 361-150  
Neiroukh pharmacy (24 hrs.) ..... 22572  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 64759  
Ruwadiah pharmacy ..... 1-1  
Jabal Al Hussein pharmacy ..... 36410  
Al Ijeh pharmacy ..... 72068  
Taxi taxi ..... 41000  
Jerusalem taxi ..... 39653  
Tuner taxi ..... 6641-1  
Kurdi taxi ..... 84139  
Waddah taxi ..... 812454  
ZARQA: Dr. Ghad Al Rouman ..... 82438-82786  
Anas pharmacy ..... 1-1  
IRBID: Dr. Zeid Jaradat ..... 5735  
Al Razi pharmacy ..... 2081

### MARKET PRICES

Upper-lower price in Jds per kg.  
Almond (green) ..... 200 / 150  
Almond (yellow) ..... 500 / 400  
Apple (American) ..... 500 / 450  
Apple (Double Red) ..... 300 / 250  
Apple (Golden) ..... 300 / 220  
Apple (Turkish) ..... 200 / 160  
Apple (French) ..... 500 / 450  
Apple (Starline) ..... 300 / 250  
Banana ..... 270 / 220  
Banana (Mekamur) ..... 230 / 200  
Beans ..... 850 / 800  
Beans (broad) ..... 170 / 120  
Beets ..... 120 / 80  
Cabbage ..... 150 / 120  
Carrot ..... 120 / 80  
Cauliflower (white) ..... 130 / 100  
Coke ..... 500 / 400  
Cocunut ..... 300 / 250  
Cucumber (large) ..... 220 / 180  
Cucumber (small) ..... 340 / 300  
Eggplant (large) ..... 240 / 200  
Grape ..... 500 / 400  
Grapefruit ..... 120 / 80  
Grape (white) ..... 900 / 700  
Grapes (black) ..... 800 / 700  
Lemon ..... 500 / 400  
Mandarin ..... 300 / 250  
Mango ..... 180 / 150  
Marrow (small) ..... 270 / 220  
Onion (dry) ..... 150 / 100  
Onion (green) ..... 180 / 150  
Oranges ..... 150 / 120  
Oranges (Mandarin) ..... 320 / 250  
Oranges (chamouli) ..... 200 / 150  
Oranges (local) ..... 170 / 150  
Peas ..... 400 / 300  
Pears (African) ..... 450 / 400  
Pears (Australian) ..... 750 / 700  
Peaches ..... 850 / 750  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 800 / 700  
Pepper (Hot Green) ..... 1000 / 800  
Plums ..... 850 / 750  
Potatoes ..... 190 / 150  
Radish ..... 150 / 120  
Sage ..... 230 / 200  
Spinach ..... 150 / 100



## SPORTS

## Future of Swedish tennis in capable hands of Wilander

MONTE CARLO (R) — Mats Wilander provided ample proof that the future of Swedish tennis is in capable hands when he captured the \$375,000 Monte Carlo Open by beating Mel Purcell of the U.S. 6-1, 6-2, 6-3 Sunday.

On the evidence of his form here this week the Swedish teenager must now be considered the finest clay court player in the world at present and looks set for a long reign.

Purcell tried to disrupt Wilander's baseline game by rushing the net at every opportunity. But that tactic was doomed to failure as the 18-year-old Swede produced a stream of winners to race to victory in 90 minutes.

In the week Bjorn Borg finally opted out of the tennis circuit, Wilander has been an irresistible force and his demolition of Purcell took his unbeaten run on European clay to 28 matches.

He began that run last summer when he replaced Borg as the youngest ever winner of the

French Open at Roland Garros, collecting the scalps of American Vitas Gerulaitis, Czechoslovak Ivan Lendl and Argentine Jose Luis Clerc and Guillermo Vilas.

The Monte Carlo Open ranks just behind the French championship and all the top clay court specialists were in attendance, including Borg, beaten by Frenchman Henri Leconte in the second round, Lendl, Vilas, Clerc and Jose Higuera of Spain.

Wilander, the number three seed and the world's eighth-ranked player, reached the final by beating Hungarian Balazs Taroczy, compatriot Henrik Sundstrom, Leconte and Italian Corrado Barazzutti in the semi-finals.

Wilander abhors comparisons with Borg and is already on record as saying: "I'm not Borg number two, I'm Wilander number one."

But their similarities — impressive victories as teenagers, two-handed backhands, Swedish nationality, blond hair, quiet per-

sonalities on and off court — are remarkable.

Now, just as he succeeded Borg as the youngest French champion, he has captured another crown associated with the great man who won the Monte Carlo Open in 1977, 1979 and 1980.

Wilander may also follow Borg's footsteps, literally, in one other respect — there is speculation he will soon establish official residence in Monte Carlo.

Wilander said: "It was easier than I thought it would be. I tried to do something different on every point in preparation for future matches. For one thing, I tried to come to the net more often."

Purcell admitted: "I did well to win six games. If I had to replay the match I still wouldn't know what to do. I'd be back here again in 90 minutes."

Asked if he thought he was the best player in the world on clay, Wilander merely said: "The upcoming French Open will decide."

## Spencer wins French Grand Prix

LE MANS, France (R) — American Freddie Spencer roared to his second World 500 cc Motor Cycle Championship victory of the season in the French Grand Prix here Sunday.

Spencer, riding a Honda, covered the 29 laps in 47 minutes 47.90 seconds.

Marco Lucchinelli of Italy, world champion in 1981, was second on a Honda and Ron Haslam of Britain third, also on a works Honda.

Spencer won the South Africa Grand Prix, first event of the 1983 series, last month.

The race was marred when Michel Frutshi of Switzerland crashed at high speed, and later died in hospital.

Frutshi, 30, from Tannay, near Geneva, won the French Grand Prix at Nogaro last year.

Suzuki works rider Iwao Ishikawa of Japan died from head injuries after a practice accident on Tuesday and Spanish world champion Angel Nieto fell off his bike on the second lap of the 125 cc race Sunday.

In the sidecar race, Shayne Smith and Steve Abbott of Britain were seriously injured when they crashed and spun over several times. They were taken to hospital in Le Mans.

## England soccer captain returns to action

DOUGLAS, Isle of Man (R) — England soccer captain Bryan Robson enjoyed a happy return from injury but fellow international Laurie Cunningham hobbled off with thigh strain in an outing for Manchester United reserves here Sunday.

Midfielder Robson, out of action since injuring an ankle in the League Cup semi-finals on February 23, scored both goals as the United reserves beat an Isle of Man XI 2-0.

"I'm delighted with the way things went. For the first 20 minutes or so I just eased myself into the game, but once I had comfort from the ankle everything went fine," Robson said.

Robson, who missed United's League Cup final defeat by Liverpool eight days ago, said he was 100 per cent fit and ready, if picked, for next Saturday's League clash against Southampton.

Winger Cunningham, on loan from Spain's Real Madrid, suffered a thigh strain in the same match and flew back to Manchester for treatment after playing just the first half.

"It's only a slight strain. It's no great problem but it is a little disappointing," Cunningham said.

## Blacks cast spell on British soccer

LONDON (Agencies) — The English football scene is being transformed by black footballers. It has been predicted that if England reach the final stages of the 1986 World Cup, at least half of their 22-man squad will comprise such players.

The view is difficult to dispute, considering the tremendous impact of youngsters like Mark Chamberlain (Stoke), Luther Blissett (Watford) and Ricky Hill (Luton) — all of whom have been brought into the national team this season — not to mention stars of the Under-21 team like Danny Thomas (Coventry).

This exciting "Black Magic" element in English Football began to emerge five years ago. Viv Anderson (Nottingham Forest) became the first black player to gain a full cap, in 1978, and the trickle of others to achieve this — Cyril Regis (West Bromwich Albion) and Laurie Cunningham (Real Madrid) — is now developing into a constant flow.

Perhaps the most fascinating success story has been that of Mark Chamberlain, today the most talked-about winger in Britain since George Best. Indeed he's even being compared with Stanley Matthews.

Last season, this 20-year-old outside right was playing for Port Vale in the Fourth Division. Stoke City bought him for £185,000, and he has made their team one of the most entertaining in the First Division. Not since Stoke had Stanley Matthews, has a winger enchanted their supporters as Chamberlain has.

"This season, I'm getting pleasure out of watching us play," enthuses Stoke manager Ritchie Barker, when discussing Chamberlain's explosive pace, ability to take on defenders and excellent crosses. "I've not experienced that here before."

Port Vale's manager John McGrath nods in agreement, recalling that when forced to sell

Chamberlain because of the club's precarious financial position, he felt duty-bound to explain the decision even to the groundsman. "He was as sick as the rest of us... the whole place went flat."

McGrath further illustrates how much it hurt Port Vale to lose Chamberlain by recounting a meeting with midfielder Geoff Hunter, over an enquiry about the player from Manchester City. "He seemed a bit down when I told him City were interested in signing him and when I asked what was up, he just said, 'Oh, I'm sick about Mark leaving... I used to love watching him in training.'"

Chamberlain, born in Stoke of Jamaican parents (his father is a haulage contractor, his mother a nurse), first attracted the attention of the top English League Clubs at 15, when he was in the England Schools XI. By then, however, he had become attached to Port Vale, like his brother Neville, a 22-year-old striker who is also with Stoke.

There is little doubt that Chamberlain owes much to McGrath. Chamberlain was 17 when McGrath joined the club and the manager recalls that he did not take the game seriously enough. "Much too sloppy in training," he says.

"He had some bad reports of me from the previous manager Bill Bentley," Chamberlain says. "On McGrath's first day here, he had me in his office and told me I was a trouble-maker. I couldn't believe it — me, the quietest person in the club."

He thought about it for a while, chuckling, and then for once became serious. "No, I was OK... it was just that I didn't appreciate in those days all the things involved in becoming a good player. I'd been influenced by one or two bad pros, and needed someone like him to put me on the right track." It was from that point that

McGrath became convinced of Chamberlain's ability to make a big impact in the First Division. Stoke first showed an interest in signing him more than 18 months ago, and Aston Villa and Liverpool also wanted him. Fortunately for Stoke, Aston Villa could not afford Vale's asking-price and surprisingly, Chamberlain was far from ecstatic about joining Liverpool. He was apprehensive of the Merseyside club's tendency to give such signings a lengthy spell in the reserves.

"Mark's a funny character, you know," McGrath says with a smile, adding that Chamberlain would have been willing to stay at Port Vale for the remainder of his contract, even though he was their lowest-paid player at £20 a week!

Chamberlain still portrays an easy-going attitude, bordering on flippancy. As McGrath points out, he is basically an individualist, and not the easiest of players to coach. "He should be left alone to a great extent... coach him and you'll destroy him."

"My first day in training at Stoke," Chamberlain says, grinning. "I had been running at the full back a few times when the boss shouted: 'Hold it... hold it.' He says: 'The first thing you do when you get the ball, Mark is look to play the long diagonal ball for the big centre-forward.'"

"I said: 'All right, but I never think of doing it on a Saturday to tell you the truth.' His personality is also reflected in his attitude to occasional racial taunts from opponents and spectators. "It makes me laugh, especially when the other team have a black player in their side."

Chamberlain, who says he has found it easier in the First Division than the Fourth ("you get more space and aren't kicked as much"), is unmoved by the acclaim and extra money he has earned this season. Most days he can



Mark Chamberlain



Laurie Cunningham



Viv Anderson

be seen in a T-shirt, jeans and a pair of white tennis shoes, which he proudly points out were given to him by an admiring fan-keeper.

"Went into his sports shop," he explains, again with that perpetual grin, "and the bloke behind the counter gave me these shoes for nothing, didn't he? Said I was a good lad..."

## Kenya's Preston leads final leg of safari motor rally

NAIROBI (R) — Local hero Vic Preston, guiding his four-wheel drive Audi Quattro through the scorched semi-desert regions of northern Kenya, piled up a 32-minute lead Sunday in the third, and final leg of the safari motor rally.

Preston, who took the lead on the first leg of the 5,000 km world championship event, had a total of 162 penalty minutes after 15 stages of the 38-stage third leg.

Finland's Timo Salonen held second place in a Nissan 240RS with 194 penalty minutes and Frenchwoman Michele Mouton, in another works Audi Quattro, was third on 204.

"I haven't even hammered the car yet," said 33-year-old Preston, before setting out Saturday night on the 1,960 km third leg, which winds up the five-day rally in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi Monday afternoon.

Second-placed Salonen reported no problems with his car but said he would go steady on the last leg, which is acknowledged to be the toughest test in the annual rallying classic.

"I am going to have to go slowly and try to finish," said Salonen, after accepting a kiss from his closest rival Mouton.

Mouton's kiss was her way of thanking Salonen for pulling over to let her pass on the previous leg.

She reported clutch problems arising from air in the hydraulic system, but was catching the Finn fast in the hope of registering an Audi one-two in the West German team's first safari appearance.

Probably the best performance

to date has come from Hannu Mikkola of Finland, driving the third Audi Quattro.

After leading briefly at the start of the first leg, he lost nearly two hours with a blown head gasket in a remote mountain area.

Starting the second leg in 11th position, he doggedly worked his way through the field to fifth place on 294 penalty minutes.

## Pryor batters Kim, retains WBA junior title

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey (R) — Aaron Pryor battered Sang-Hyun Kim of Korea to swift defeat here Saturday night to retain his World Boxing Association junior welterweight title, the referee stopping the fight just 37 seconds into the third round.

It was the unbeaten Pryor's 33rd victory and his 31st by knockout, including the last 25 in a row.

Pryor, who had to sweat off a pound (half kilo) to make the weight, went for Kim from the start

with left hooks and overhand rights to the head. Kim, meanwhile, landed only a few blows.

Kim, who weighed 138-1/4 pounds (62.853 kilos), was not knocked down or cut. But twice in the second round Pryor's relentless pressure buckled his legs.

Pryor was pummeling Kim with both hands as referee Carlos Berrocal of Panama stopped the bout. Pryor collected a cut along the corner of his right eye but claimed it was a head butt.

It was his first contest since he stopped Alexis Arguello of Nicaragua in the 14th round last November 12. "I'm excited I even had the fight," he said afterwards.

Pryor, 27, was only allowed the match after Ohio supreme court intervened in a dispute between him and his manager, Buddy Larosa.

The court, which Saturday overruled a lower court decision in Larosa's favour, ordered Pryor's \$350,000 purse held in escrow. Kim, 28, earned \$75,000.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The organisers of the European Spring Festival regret to announce that due to unexpected technical reasons, the "Langenhagen Brass Symphonic Orchestra" has to cancel the "gala concert" due for 8 p.m. Monday, 4th April, 1983 at the Royal Cultural Centre. Tickets for that concert will be treated as valid for either of the concerts taking place at 8 p.m. Tuesday 5th April, 1983 and Wednesday 6th April, 1983 at the Royal Cultural Centre.

## FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Three bedrooms, spacious living/dining area, reception room, two bathrooms, equipped kitchen, balcony. Independent central heating. New modern European furniture, telephone.

Location: Off 6th Circle, near San Rock Hotel  
Enquiries: Tel. 813368 - 811345

## HOUSEMAID WANTED

American family wants live-in girl who speaks very good English, do little cooking and is good with children (ages 8 and 11) for immediate hire.  
Pls call 812028 after 7 p.m. evenings

The British Council extends an open invitation to a reception at the British Council Centre Jabal Amman between 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Tuesday 5 April to introduce the English Pop Group MAGNA CARTA

Magna Carta will give two concerts at the Palace of Culture on 6 and 7 April at 7.30 p.m.  
Tickets JD 1,000 at the door.

## FLATS FOR RENT

Single story deluxe flats, 270 square meters area each comprising of 1, 2, and 3-bedrooms, living and salon rooms, verandas, separate heating systems, are available for rent. The building is located on top of a hill in west Shmeisani overlooking SCEINIC views, near Middle East Hotel.

For further information call Tel: 665562

## FURNISHED APARTMENT TO LET

A deluxe furnished apartment consists of two bedrooms, two bathrooms, sitting room, salon and dining, located at University Road.

For information call 663708

## FURNISHED APARTMENT

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1. SALESMAN: For foodstuffs and various other consumer products. Should have fair knowledge of local market conditions and minimum three years experience in selling consumer products.

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Only qualified candidates need apply to:  
Barq Supermarket, Tel: 664318

## FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Fully furnished deluxe flat, consist of two bedrooms, dining room, salon, kitchen, with telephone and separate central heating system. Location: Jabal Amman, 8th Circle, entrance of road leading to the Royal Automobile Club, opposite the American Community School. Call Tel: 842380, 842726 Amman, or come in person.

## EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REQUIRED

RAYA consulting services bureau is seeking a well qualified secretary. If you are interested and have experience in typing and telex work, and have excellent English, contact us. We offer the best. For interview, our office is located in Weibdeh near the Land and Survey Department, CRESTCO Building (Tel: 39435)

FRENCH CULTURAL CENTRE  
Jabal Luweibdeh  
Tel 37008, 36445  
FRENCH LANGUAGE COURSES

Registration for all levels of the French Language Courses second term of 1983 will take place from Wednesday 23.3.1983 to Saturday 26.3.1983 and from Monday 4.4.1983 to Thursday 7.4.1983.

The courses will start Saturday 9.4.1983

Dr. Hala Khalil  
Zabaneh

Dermatologist and  
Venereologist

announces that her clinic telephone has been changed to  
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Raynaud

LIMOUS



Fa Sha  
Jabal Luweibdeh, Hawtat Qad

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For further information please contact Tel. 22161 until 12:00 noon, and Tel. 41509 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.

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مكدا منة الامم



## ECONOMY

### Finland faces worrying trade surplus with USSR

HELSINKI (R) — After enjoying economic growth during the recession because of its close commercial ties with the neighbouring Soviet Union, Finland now faces a worrying trade surplus with Moscow, according to economists here.

The two countries are linked by long and short-term agreements under which they deal in kind not cash and aim for an equal exchange of goods and Finland is wondering what Soviet goods it can buy to balance trade.

The problem has been accentuated by the recent fall in world oil prices, as oil makes up around 80 per cent of Moscow's exports to Helsinki.

Under the bilateral agreements, the Soviet Union imports Finnish well designed consumer goods, high technology and specialised engineering products such as ice breakers and has even allowed Finnish construction firms

to build whole towns for it.

In return the Finns who conduct nearly 30 per cent of their total trade with the Soviet Union and its Eastern European partners in Comecon, take oil natural gas and other raw materials.

When oil prices soared in the 1970s, the Finnish economy was stimulated by the need to increase industrial output to the value of Soviet oil imports and narrow a trade gap then in Moscow's favour.

The country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by 6.5 per cent in 1979 and 5.5 per cent in 1980 after taking inflation into account and almost full employment was maintained.

But in the past few months this trade imbalance, beneficial to Finland, has been reversed.

GDP growth has slackened, being expected to rise by only 1.5 per cent this year, unemployment

has increased to seven per cent and inflation to eight per cent.

Helsinki's surplus with the Soviet Union stood at 906 million markka (\$22.7 million) in January.

In addition, an amount of 2.1 billion markka (\$50 million), a deficit for Moscow, was converted into a credit in an interest bearing account at the Bank of Finland last year. The rate of interest has not been disclosed.

Economists said the recent drop to \$28 from \$29.50 a barrel in the price paid by the Finnish oil importing company for Soviet crude would reinforce these trends.

Finland's total trade deficit in 1982 was 1.7 billion markka (\$40 million), while its foreign debt now stands at 40 billion markka (\$1 billion).

These economic problems were the main issue during parliamentary elections last month

but various parties did not differ markedly in their approach to Finland's mixed economy.

The elections left the Social Democrats in a strong bargaining position in negotiations now going on for the formation of a coalition.

Bankers said their main worry about the surplus was its domestic inflationary effect and added that a tight monetary policy would have to be followed to prevent this.

A large country like the Soviet Union, which recently announced it had cut its deficit to Western industrialised countries and Japan by around 80 per cent, could cope with trade fluctuations better than Finland, they said.

But they stressed that the surplus was a purely practical problem and did not threaten Finland's delicate relations with its old World War II enemy or require political solutions.

They said if oil prices rose again

the pendulum could quickly swing into Helsinki's deficit and added that there was plenty of time to solve the problem before the short-term bilateral trade agreement was due to be renewed in 1985.

Analysts said Finland's close economic cooperation with Moscow was more of an asset rather than a drag on the small Nordic country of 4.8 million people.

The analysts said if the surplus problem was not solved, Finland would prefer to cut exports to the Soviet Union and find new markets in the West than accept products from Moscow it does not want.

Already Finnish shoe manufacturers are looking for Western European outlets for around four million pairs of shoes left on their shelves when Moscow recently cut its quota for imported consumer goods.

But as the Soviet Union seems less inclined to do without high technology and engineering products, Finland is considering what else it can buy from its communist neighbour, known for the low quality of its manufactured goods.

"There is a limit to the amount of samovars and caviar we can take," one Finnish economic writer said.

One possibility being examined is an increase in Soviet chemical and machinery exports to Finland.

Another is that Moscow could provide a reactor for a fifth nuclear power station which might be built in Finland for the 1990s although Helsinki is also interested in French reactors.

But this project still needs approval by parliament, to which two "Green" deputies, representative of Finland's small but growing anti-nuclear movement, were elected for the first time last month.

## China, USSR to sign trade accord soon

PEKING (R) — China and the Soviet Union will soon sign a border trade agreement, their first for about 20 years, the China News Service reported Sunday.

The semi-official news agency said Soviet officials arrived on Wednesday in Harbin, capital of the border province of Heilongjiang.

It said the two countries agreed to sign an agreement last October during talks in the Soviet far eastern port of Khabarovsk.

The trade would take the form of barter, it said, but gave no details. Border trade is conducted by provincial rather than national officials.

Soviet sources said border trade would occupy only a small proportion of overall Sino-Soviet trade, which is set to rise by 170 per cent this year to about \$800 million.

Diplomatic sources said the agreement to revive border trade was a further sign of improvement in relations after more than 20 years of hostility.

A Chinese foreign ministry spokesman said on Thursday the two countries had agreed to exchange students for the first time since the cultural revolution, which began in 1966.

Last year they resumed sporting contacts and in October held their first high-level talks since 1979.

A second round held in Moscow last month achieved no breakthrough but a Chinese spokesman said the decision to revive student exchanges had resulted from the Moscow meeting.

Chinese officials say there is no possibility of a drastic improvement in relations until the Soviet Union changes its "expansionist" policies in Afghanistan, Kampuchea and elsewhere.

## Pakistan plans large production of saffron

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Pakistan is planning large scale production of saffron, a highly expensive flavouring plant, in Baluchistan province, government officials said here.

The country's agriculture research council has supplied some 100,000 corms of the Spanish-origin fragrant flower for cultivation in Baluchistan following successful experiments.

These corms are believed to produce a better yield than the Iranian and Dutch varieties which were successfully tried last year.

Saffron costs \$1 per gramme locally.

At present it is imported from various countries. Local production will cut prices and provide Pakistan with valuable foreign exchange.

The officials said that the experimental production of the orange-colouring saffron yielded a quality as good as that obtained from the Indian-occupied part of Kashmir known as motherland.

The areas selected for the saffron production include Pushkaram, Mastung and Sariab near Quetta.

Pakistan hopes to harvest two to 2.5 kilograms of dried saffron per acre over the next two to three years.

In Soviet Azerbaijan, farmers obtain a yield of about eight kilograms per hectare.

## French cars lose their shine

PARIS: After more than ten years as the flagship of French industrial success, the car industry has become a symbol of its sagging competitiveness.

Renault (sixth largest producer in the world) and Peugeot (seventh) have both been making heavy losses. The car industry's surplus on external trade has been shrinking fast. Labour costs, boosted in part by new government measures over longer holidays and shorter working hours, have been rising far more quickly than gains in productivity.

Since last year car plants in the Paris region have been hit by a series of strikes that reflect the new militancy of immigrant labour and the fears of the impact on jobs of increasing automation. Margins have suffered from the four months' statutory price freeze last year and from periods in which the franc has been overvalued, particularly against the Deutsche mark.

These difficulties come at a time when French manufacturers are facing more intensive competition in such markets from European, Japanese and American rivals. They also coincide with a moment when French manufacturers should be drawing maximum gains from the heavy investments they have made in recent years.

The Peugeot group (which includes the Citroen and Talbot marques) has just brought out the new Peugeot 205 and the Citroen BX. Renault has just launched the new R11. Both companies have invested heavily in robots and in new plant to standardise engines

and gear boxes.

In this sense they have so far proved to be the exception to the rule -- blamed by the present socialist administration on its predecessors -- of French industry to modernise itself sufficiently in recent years.

What makes the car industry's problems of national importance is the central place it holds in the national economy.

Directly or indirectly, one in ten workers are employed by the automobile sector, and it accounts for some 14 per cent of French exports.

The turnaround in its fortunes has been dramatic.

In constant 1982 francs the car industry's surplus on external trade rose from FF17.2 billion in 1970 to FF38.5 billion in 1979. By the end of last year it had fallen back to FF7 billion.

Most significant has been the French performance in the West German market. The number of French cars sold in West Germany has slumped from 286,777 in 1979 to 170,683 last year.

### Imports grow

Import penetration by foreign manufacturers into the French market was held throughout the 1970s to under 22 per cent. Over the last three years it has shot up to 30 per cent and in January this year (possibly a freak month) to 36 per cent.

The largest gains in the French market (where under a long-standing quota system the Japanese share is held to under 3 per

cent) have been made by West German manufacturers and by new models such as the Escort, Ritmo and Panda brought out by Ford and Fiat.

### Peugeot sales crumble

Peugeot (France's largest non-nationalised company) has seen both sales and profits crumble.

After passing the 2 million unit production level in 1978 following its takeover of Chrysler's European operations, which was designed to help it achieve greater economies of scale, production fell back last year to 1.6 million units.

At the same time after a 35-year record of continuing profits it has made a total of about FF6 billion (\$885 million) of losses in the last three years -- with 1982 (when the group had hoped to be back in profits on its French operations) possibly the worst year with a probable deficit of FF2.3 billion.

M. Jacques Calvet, the former head of Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP), brought in by the group to impose tighter financial discipline and now head of Automobiles Peugeot (controlling the Peugeot and Talbot marques), says the group expects to be back in the black this year. But it is a calculation that depends critically on avoiding another costly strike.

### Peugeot faces hard options

Otherwise Peugeot could be faced with several unpleasant options.

Among these might be compromising its cherished independence by seeking financial aid from the government, possibly in the shape of subsidised loans; continuing to hold back on further investment and thus jeopardising its long-run ability to develop new models and to automate its pro-

duction further; or even disposing of its loss making Spanish and British subsidiaries.

Financial analysts believe that Peugeot would have difficulty in supporting a fourth year of losses. Shareholders' capital has shrunk from FF13.6 billion at the end of 1979 to FF8.5 billion at the end of last year, as the company has dipped further into its reserves. Its short, medium and long term debt has meanwhile risen to a dizzy FF26 billion.

### Renault may lose FF2.2b

In sharp contrast Renault had a record sales year in 1982, boosting production to 1.96 million units as compared with 1.76 million in 1978.

The overall loss of market share in France and Europe (though Renault has lost ground in West Germany and Britain) has been most pronounced in the case of the Peugeot group. But Renault is likely to make losses approaching FF2 billion last year after a FF675 million loss in 1981.

As a nationalised company it can look to the state for fresh injections of capital -- it has just received an additional FF1.6 billion this year. But it is well aware that with public sector losses (monopolies and competitive enterprises) totalling last year close to FF30 billion, the government's purse is limited.

"Our problem," says a Renault official, "is not our product. Our problem is economic and financial. We need to make money to finance our investments."

### Labour unrest prevails

It is against this background of a worsening financial situation that the problems of renewed strikes and rising labour costs loom so large. The Peugeot group, which had not had a strike for several

years, lost 100,000 cars last year and Renault lost 40,000 alone in January.

The disputes have not touched the highly automated plants manned by a largely French workforce that Renault has at Douai or Peugeot at Rennes or Valenciennes. They have been confined to the large plants in the Paris basin -- Flins and Billancourt, where together Renault employs 36,000 people, Citroen's Aulnay factory (6,500), and Talbot's plant at Poissy (14,000).

Most of the assembly line workers in all these factories are immigrants, mainly North African, drawn to France during the period of high economic expansion of the late-1960s and who risk being displaced as these plants are automated and shifted out of Paris.

An unpredictable combination of the arrival of a left-wing government in France in 1981 and the new mood of confidence in the Islamic World has made them politically more assertive and more resentful of the monotony of the production line. They are also less swayed than French workers by appeals to restraint that invoke the national interest.

At Citroen's Aulnay plant, in particular, the labour troubles have been made more acute by the abrupt shift in power that has taken place since May 1981.

The right wing "house" union, supported by an authoritarian management enforcing labour discipline, has been ousted from its position as almost sole union representative by its communist rival, the CGT, provoking an almost daily trail of violence as the two sides settle old scores.

### Officials see no answer

Government officials see no short-term answer to the problems of immigrant labour in the car industry, which could spread

to other sectors of industry which also employ large numbers of the 2 million immigrant workers in France.

Realising the dangers, ministers have been taking a tougher line both towards the immigrant leaders -- playing on their insecurity in France by branding them as "religious fundamentalists" in the words of M. Pierre Mauroy -- and towards the CGT.

At the same time the government has been pressing the automobile manufacturers towards making concessions.

In an effort to settle the dispute at Flins, Renault was encouraged to offer an overall pay increase across the group for production workers amounting to 10-11 per cent, which has blown a hole in the government's 8 per cent pay guidelines for this year and horrified the rest of French industry.

This comes on top of a 17 per cent increase for assembly line workers last year.

In addition, Renault reckons that the introduction of the 39-hour week and a fifth week's paid holiday cost it last year FF850 million or 5 per cent of its wages bill.

The Peugeot group, which increased hourly wages for production workers last year by some 13-14 per cent, estimates the additional cost of new social measures at FF1 billion.

Peugeot can hardly fail this year to follow Renault's lead over the level of wage settlements.

Gains in productivity -- Renault claims 7-9 per cent a year and Peugeot on average 5 per cent -- partly offset these rising labour costs. But a further worrying phenomenon has been the rise in the rate of absenteeism, which Renault puts at 15-18 per cent in the first nine months of last year.

— Financial Times news features

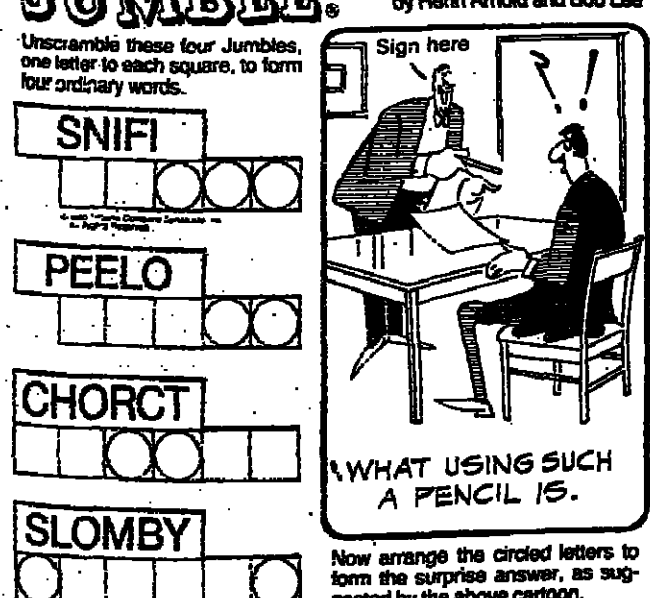
### THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



### JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Print answer here:  (Answers tomorrow)  
Yesterday's Jumbles: KNOWN CUBIT DONKEY GOLFER  
Answer: What's happening to the cost of space travel these days? — IT'S ROCKETING

### Peanuts



### Mutt 'n' Jeff



### Andy Capp

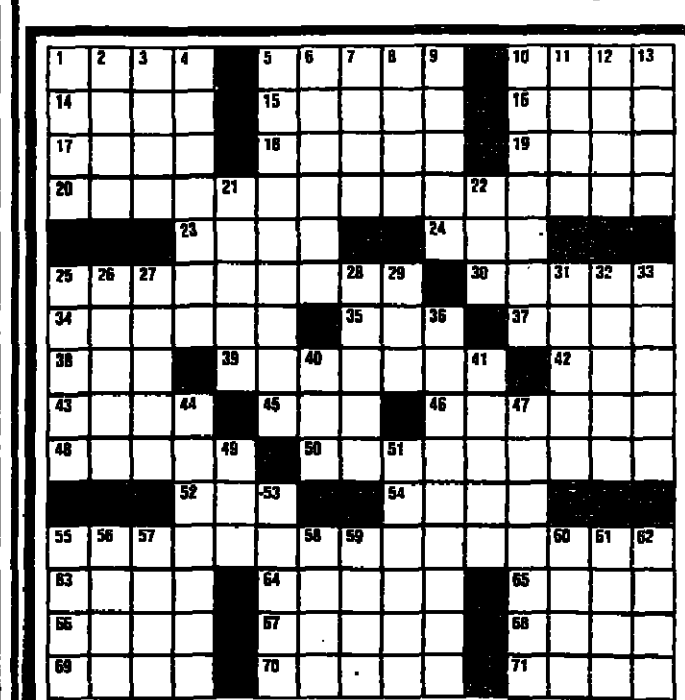


### HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

### THE Daily Crossword

by Marie West

ACROSS	34 Artful dodger	54 Chime	21 Fencing foils
1 Garret	35 Research center	55 Blunts	22 Conifer knighthood
5 Paroxysm	37 Joshua, for one	63 Stone and Space	25 Ledger entry
10 Sail support	38 Encore!	64 "The Velvet Fog"	26 Slur over
14 Medley	39 Roman gold coin	65 Relative of a wheeze	27 Signal flare
15 Casals' instrument	42 Potation	66 Banjo ridge	28 Select
16 Exhort	43 Concept	67 Witch's city	29 Family man
17 Carton	45 Clever	68 Qum's land	31 Poetry muse
18 "It's —!" (agreed)	46 On the rally	69 Sunbathes	32 Wire: abbr.
19 Origin	48 On the agenda	70 Brings up	33 Roundown
20 About to crack	49 Gear cogs	71 Invites	36 Certain commuters
23 Candid	50 Series of four plays	DOWN	40 Kindred
24 Under: prof.	52 Greek letter	1 Crazy	41 Argot
25 Bent		2 Pearl Buck heroine	44 Certifies
30 Borsch vegetables		3 Symbol of defiance	47 African country



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## WORLD

7 killed  
by police  
in Assam

NEW DELHI (R) — Seven people were killed and 13 injured when police fired on a 500-strong armed crowd which tried to attack a refugee camp in Upper Assam, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said Sunday.

The agency said the crowd, armed with guns, bows and arrows and other weapons tried to attack some 50 families sheltering in the camp in the Sibsagar district of the troubled northeast Indian state Saturday night. Several police were also injured.

The families had taken shelter in the camp when their village was set ablaze by an armed gang that killed 10 people last Monday.

They agency did not identify the groups involved but previous clashes have been between ethnic Assamese or tribesmen and Bengali-speaking Muslim immigrants.

Mrs. Bhutto  
in Britain

LONDON (R) — Nusrat Bhutto, widow of former Pakistan Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was executed in April 1979, is in Britain on a private visit, the Home Office said Sunday.

Mrs. Bhutto was freed from house arrest in Pakistan last November after a medical tribunal ruled that she needed urgent medical treatment abroad for suspected cancer.

U.S. smug despite  
Gromyko's rejection

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. officials do not believe the Soviet Union has slammed the door on President Reagan's call for an interim pact to limit medium range nuclear missiles, despite initial Kremlin rejection of the idea.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, in a rare Moscow news conference Saturday, described the U.S. plan as unacceptable. He said it would widen the differences between the two sides and leave the West with more than twice as many nuclear warheads in Europe as the Soviet Union.

Although State Department officials expressed disappointment at what they called the Kremlin's unconstructive response, they noted Mr. Gromyko's tone was more restrained than usual.

The officials said the Reagan plan was not dead, adding they intended to press the proposal with Soviet negotiators when arms control talks resume in Geneva on May 17.

"I certainly do believe there is life in it. We want to see what the Soviet Union has to say when we return to the negotiating table," one senior State Department official said.

"What they regard as unacceptable today, they may not regard as unacceptable tomorrow," another U.S. official said.

Mr. Reagan has called for an interim arms agreement that would leave an equal number of medium-range warheads in the hands of each superpower. Moscow has previously spurned his "zero option" plan to ban all medium-range nuclear weapons.

U.S. allies in Europe, who have strongly backed the new Reagan proposal, were critical of Moscow for rejecting it.

British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym accused Mr. Gromyko of being deliberately misleading in charging the U.S. offer would give NATO two and a half times the number of Soviet warheads.

State Department officials said it would be a mistake for Moscow to view a wave of anti-nuclear demonstrations in Europe this week as a lack of Western commitment to go ahead with plans for deploying the missiles.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher described Mr. Gromyko's remarks as "a disappointment for everybody interested in disarmament."

Italian officials said the Soviet rejection was a sign of intransigence, diminishing chances for success in arms talks.

But NATO officials said in Brussels it was too early to say whether Mr. Gromyko's comments were aimed at Western public opinion or fully reflected Kremlin thinking.

Diplomats unconvinced

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko's comments on the European missile issue indicate that Moscow will stick to its rejection of President Reagan's interim proposal to limit medium-range nuclear

weapons as a basis for an accord. Western diplomats said Sunday.

The diplomats in Moscow said they considered Washington had taken too optimistic a view of the Soviet answer.

Gromyko made quite clear that Moscow expects further concessions from the Americans and will not back down from its objections to the terms of the Reagan plan," one diplomat said.

The Western diplomats, experts in the East-West arms issue, said they too had been surprised by Mr. Gromyko's moderate approach and refusal to attack the U.S. leadership.

But despite the more flexible approach by the Soviet leadership, Mr. Gromyko had left no doubt that it would not relent in its opposition to the Reagan plan, the diplomats said.

The diplomats said they thought the Soviet Union might eventually agree to U.S. suggestions that nuclear strike aircraft be taken into account at separate negotiations.

They said it was also possible that Moscow would give way to U.S. insistence that any missiles withdrawn from Europe as the result of an agreement be scrapped rather than withdrawn to Soviet Asian territory.

But they (the Soviet leadership) seem to be very adamant on including the French and British nuclear forces in calculations of Western missile strength and it looks as if this is something they will not give way on," one West European diplomat said.

On the fourth day of the mission two of the astronauts, scientist Dr. Story Musgrave and retired air force Col. Donald Peterson, will don the spacesuits and spend more than three hours outside Challenger's pressurized cabin testing the new equipment.

Challenger's mission was extended by two days to accommodate the spacewalk after an identical operation was scrubbed due to equipment failures during the last Columbia mission in November.

Challenger's launch was pushed back more than 10 weeks by the discovery of tiny cracks in the spacecraft's main engines and a storm early last month which covered the satellite package with dust.

The satellite is the first orbital component of a \$3 billion system for almost continuous communication with shuttles and other satellites.

It is due to be put in position 10 hours after lift-off, but the astronauts will have several other opportunities.

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## Thai, Vietnamese troops clash

BANGKOK (R) — Thai troops repelled a Vietnamese thrust across the Kampuchean border after two days of fierce fighting, military authorities said Sunday.

Five Thai soldiers were killed at least 10 others were seriously wounded in hand-to-hand combat near the over-run Khmer Rouge guerrilla stronghold of Phnom Chat after Vietnamese forces penetrated two kilometres into Thai territory, they added.

Thai forces regained control Saturday night of the area around Phnom Pra, a mountain straddling the Thai-Kampuchea border, about 280 kilometres east of Bangkok. Thai army chief Gen. Arthit Kamlang-ek said.

Vietnam launched a big assault on Thursday against the Phnom Chat guerrilla base, forcing some 15,000 Kampucheans who lived there and in nearby settlements to flee into Thailand.

After knocking out Phnom Chat, the Vietnamese launched several cross-border attacks on Friday and fought fierce artillery duels with Thai troops.

International relief workers say they expect Vietnamese attacks on other guerrilla bases containing some 100,000 refugees before the start of the monsoon season, due in a few weeks.

Gen. Arthit said the army was gathering evidence on the latest incident before asking the foreign ministry to lodge a formal protest with the U.N.

He told reporters that although the Vietnamese had been pushed back across the border, artillery fire went on until Saturday night with some Vietnamese shells landing up to 12 kilometres inside Thai territory.

Son Sann, prime minister of the anti-Vietnam coalition, said in Singapore Sunday that "by the wet season (following the current dry season offensive), the tide will definitely be turned in favour of the liberation forces in the field in Cambodia."

Mr. Son Sann, who also leads the Khmer People's National Liberation front (KPRLF), added at a news conference that the KPRLF was expecting weapons from China, which he described as the only donor to resistance forces.

Police move to prevent Sikh protests

NEW DELHI (R) — Police in the North Indian state of Punjab have arrested more than 1,000 Sikh militants in a major crackdown ahead of protests to back demands for political and religious concessions, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said Sunday.

The news agency said they were picked up during weekend raids. Police said they would mount a major security operation Monday to keep Punjab's roads open and paramilitary units have been stationed at key points.

Thousands of Sikh demonstrators planned a road blockade in the latest phase of a protest movement headed by the regional Akali Dal Party to press the central government for religious and political concessions.

Demand for greater autonomy for an expanded Punjab.

Sikh protest leader Harchand Singh Longowal has urged protesters to resist arrest and said the one-day road blockade programme would go ahead as planned.

He said Akali volunteers would block main roads by sitting on the highways and reciting Sikh scriptures.

Punjab Chief Secretary K.D. Vasudeva said the government would maintain key bus services and had ordered the arrests "in apprehension of a breach of the peace."

Several Sikh members of the Punjab local assembly were among those detained but none of the top Akali leadership has been arrested so far, according to an Akali spokesman.

Things far from normal in Popayan

POPAYAN, Colombia (R) — Hungry children searched and begged for food among the ruins of earthquake-devastated Popayan as President Belisario Betancur told government officials to improve the distribution of relief supplies.

While up to 10,000 people fled the city, the Mayor's Office said 250 bodies had been found following Thursday's earthquake.

Civil defence officials believe the death toll in the Andean city of 138,000 people could reach 500.

A strong earthquake was meanwhile reported in central and southern Costa Rica. Red Cross officials in San Jose said some people had been injured but no deaths were reported.

In Popayan, shopkeepers boosted prices because of food shortages. Some were selling soft drinks at eight times the official price of 10 pesos (10 U.S. cents).

While the government concentrated relief efforts on the city centre, appeals for help came from poor families living in suburbs declared disaster areas.

Residents of the El Retiro district asked former President Victor Mosquera Chaux, also left homeless, to use his influence to obtain food, tents and cooking utensils.

President Betancur meanwhile made his third tour of the city since the quake, and told the emergency committee set up to supervise the aid to improve distribution arrangements.

He spoke as hungry children carrying baskets roamed the streets in a search for food.

"We are going where there is no danger", one woman said as she loaded a chair and blankets onto a truck outside her home which was on the verge of collapsing.

Officials said water supplies had been restored to some areas but 90 per cent of Popayan's 6,000 telephone lines remained out of order.

They estimate that at least 80 per cent of the city's 25,000 homes have been damaged.

Pope's Easter message packs many grim notes

VATICAN CITY (R) — Pope John Paul Sunday urged a suffering world to seek relief through the example of Jesus Christ, firmly identifying the church with victims of injustice and natural disaster.

His traditional "urbi et orbi" Easter message to Rome and the world from St. Peter's Basilica contained a grim assessment of the international situation. The Pope considers the world to be under constant threat of nuclear annihilation.

Speaking from the central loggia of St. Peter's, the Pope looked out over the ranks of uniformed Swiss guards and pilgrims' umbrellas to a large group of anti-famine marchers approaching the square down the Via della Conciliazione.

"We are with you who suffer from misery and hunger, and sometimes witness the agony of children who are calling out for bread," the Pope said, listing 11 categories of suffering with which the church felt particular solidarity.

He included the "victims of terrorism, locked up in prisons or concentration camps, consumed by ill-treatment or by torture" and those who lived in the "nightmare of daily threats of violence or civil war."

After speaking in Armenian and Arabic, the Pope added a message in Hebrew to wish Jews a joyful Passover feast.

His last greeting in Polish, longer than the preceding messages, was greeted by applause.

Vatican observers said the huge number of pilgrims who turned out under a leaden sky for the Easter blessing was an early indication of the crowds which jubilee year is likely to attract to Rome between now and next Easter.

Hoteliers and museum curators said the number of visitors in the last 10 days had easily exceeded last year, itself an exceptionally busy Easter holiday.

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In contrast, the Czechoslovak tennis player Martina Navratilova won asylum quickly in the late 1970s even though she said she was not defecting for political reasons.

Miss Hu claims that she would be persecuted if she went back to China because she consistently refused government requests to become a communist youth leader and propagandist.

But the Chinese government has asserted she was manipulated into defecting and has demanded her return, warning that the incident could jeopardise Sino-

Good diplomats first

The reasons behind the recent rejections lie in a combination of a change in the immigration law, what U.S. officials see as an attempt to restrict the number of foreigners entering the United States, a rise in the number of fraudulent asylum applications and

in some cases U.S. fears that granting a request may jeopardise its relations with the country concerned.

Chinese applicants, for example, have often been rejected under both administrations. The political sensitivity of such requests has been highlighted here by the case of the 19-year-old Chinese tennis player Hu Na who defected last July.

Her case has aroused the wrath of Peking, with which Washington is trying to remain on friendly terms, and after eight months the authorities have still not reached a decision on her case.

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in some cases U.S. fears that granting a request may jeopardise its relations with the country concerned.

Chinese applicants, for example, have often been rejected under both administrations. The political sensitivity of such requests has been highlighted here by the case of the 19-year-old Chinese tennis player Hu Na who defected last July.

Her case has aroused the wrath of Peking, with which Washington is trying to remain on friendly terms, and after eight months the authorities have still not reached a decision on her case.

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